THE MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY.

FOR

JANUARY, 1809.

ADDRESS OF THE EDITORS.

THE MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY, has at length completed a *Lustrum;* an age, which few of the magazines in this country have reached. We do not use this word because it is Latin; but because it tempts us to remind our subscribers, that a period of five years was so called by the Romans, because, at the end of it the taxes were all paid in to the *Censors.* This derivation (a luendo i. e. solvendo) our readers will excuse us for suggesting, since we always wish to preserve, as far as we can, the original and classical meaning of words.

In reviewing our last year's labours, we acknowledge the assistance we have received from a few anonymous correspondents. To the author of the "Letters from Europe," we are particularly indebted; and we express the unanimous sentiment of our readers, when we hope, that his contributions will not fail, as long as there remains a memorandum in his portfolio. The man, who writes most at his ease, commonly writes most agreeably; though he may not have satisfied himself so well, as if he had constructed his style with more formality, and reviewed it with more precaution. No one prepares minutely to criticise a piece, except by profession, till he is tired or uninterested; and this is not yet the case with the readers of these letters. More correspondence of this kind, would greatly relieve the sobriety of our numbers; for surely, no kind of composition encourages so much good humour and unceremonious simplicity, as the writing of letters to an uncritical correspondent, in those precious moments, when the heart is warmed by recollections of friendship, and ready to receive and transmit the liveliest impressions of interesting objects. It is the peculiar felicity of a good letter writer, not only to

200814

feel at home himself, but to be sure that his readers will at once make themselves very much at home with him. In such familiar epistles, the reader, to use a homely phrase, is invited "to take potluck" with his author; and, in our monthly entertainment, this has often been more relished than any thing on the board.

We are also under obligations to a correspondent, who signs himself, R, for having furnished us with many interesting speculations. As often as he will write, the publick, we doubt not, will read, and we shall publish, with equal pleasure.

The faults of our work, of which no one can be more sensible than the editors, result from causes, which we can only hope to counteract, but not entirely to remove. The ANTHOLOGY has hitherto been supported by the unpaid and unregulated contributions of a few literary men, who are pleased when the publick profits by their reading, or shares in their amusements. They have yet had no extraordinary stimulus to write, but the friendly curiosity and occasional encomiums of men like themselves. They are not enlisted in the support of any denomination of prejudices; nor are they inspired with the fanaticism of literary crusaders, associated to plant their standards on territory recovered from heathens or hereticks. They are satisfied, if they in any way contribute to the mild influence of our common christianity, and to the elegant tranquillity of literary life. They are gentle knights, who wish to guard the seats of taste and morals at home, from the incursions of the "paynim host;" happy, if they should now and then rescue a fair captive from the giants of romance, or dissolve the spell, in which many a youthful genius is held, by the enchantments of corrupt literature. If with these objects, they can retain the pleasures of lettered society,

> Mundaeque parvo sub lare pauperum
> Coenae, sine aulaeis et ostro,
> Sollicitam explicuere frontem,

they will try to be as insensible to the neglect or contumely of the great vulgar and the small, as they are to the pelting of the pitiless storm without, when taste and good humour sit round the fire within.

The imperfections of our work, however, will yet arise, as heretofore, from the number of hands employed to fill its pages. Incon-

sistencies of opinion, and varieties of taste will occasionally appear in a Magazine like this, which does not pass under the rigorous review of any single editor. Our only invariable wish will be, to avoid every thing, which may raise a blush on the cheek of the pure, or offend the enlightened reason of serious and charitable readers.

In entering on another year, we shall not suffer ourselves to be betrayed into magnificent promises, though we have new inducements to more various and vigorous exertions. The facility, with which the promises of editors are made at the present day, is exceeded only by the indifference, with which they are broken. If we have hitherto been less sanguine in promise, and more equable in performance than others, it is because, writing only to amuse and meliorate ourselves and others, we have never engaged to excite the passions, or gratify the prejudices of any party or sect. We have satisfied ourselves, if not the publick, when we have in any honourable way checked the presumptuousness of literary vanity, corrected the mistakes of reputable authors, exposed the disingenuousness of editors or publishers, encouraged the rare spirit of learned labour, rebuked the intolerance of demagogues in church or state, or in any degree promoted the cause of correct criticism, pure morals, serious and rational faith, under a generous toleration of every thing but folly, malice, fraud, or impiety.

We can venture, however, to tell the publick, that though our work has always had more readers than subscribers, a distinction more honourable than profitable, the effective patronage of the ANTHOLOGY is rapidly extending. It will in future make two volumes a year; and, as we have chosen to enlarge the circle of our labours, we will now give a short previous survey, that the publick may know the character, to which, though our work should never attain, we hope it will never cease to aspire.

American literature is not a tract where we expect any regular annual product, or where we are sure of constant improvements from the hand of well directed industry; but it is rather a kind of half cleared and half cultivated country, where you may travel till you are out of breath, without starting any rare game, and be obliged to sit down day after day to the same coarse, insipid fare. Of this, however, we are confident, that, as long as the price of paper in England continues so high, our presses will teem with republished novelties;

and the worst and lightest productions of English literature will continue to be scattered over our country with undistinguishing profusion. This state of the American press calls upon us for increasing vigilance, especially since we have found, in more instances than one, that some republishers and editors are not very scrupulous of alterations. With respect to native productions, we are sensible, that the office of a reviewer is a far more responsible one, than those are ready to imagine, who think it only a station, where they may praise without measure, or lacerate with impunity. We wish all our correspondents to remember, that to review well a book, that is worth reviewing, requires much accuracy, more candour, sometimes patient research, and always careful attention to grammar and propriety. The retrospective review, which we last year commenced, we hope to continue with success. In this part of our work we again solicit the aid of those, who are curious in exploring American history, or who have in their possession any rare and valuable works, relating to the literature of this country. A critique, or analysis of Mather's Magnalia, and of all our provincial histories are among our first desiderata in this branch. The miscellany department of our work will be conducted, with a particular regard in our selections to the deficiencies of American literature; and we conclude by renewing our wishes to our original correspondents, that the ANTHOLOGY may yet be the repository of the sound literature of NEW ENGLAND.

REMARKS ON ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF THE ROMAN POETS.*

No. I.

Vos exemplaria Romana
Nocturna versate manu, versate diurna.
HOR. AR. po. 266.

THE *Art of Translating*, which enables us to incorporate the knowledge and improvements of all ages and countries in our own language, was sparingly cultivated by the ancients. Some of the Roman classicks, indeed, recommended translation as an exercise to improve in a language, which had become the repository of knowledge and works of taste; but no authors entire are found to have been rendered into their vernacular tongue. Quintilian and Pliny the Younger have lavished their advice upon others to adventure in a task, whose rules they were more ready to impose than to exemplify; and Cicero has added to his own recommendations on the subject, a few fragments of translations from Xenophon, Plato, and Aratus. But the rhetoricians and philosophers of Rome were satisfied with knowing the rules and theories of the Grecian schools; and, when they adopted them, they scrupled not to clothe them in a garb of their own manufacture. The poets, like most of their successors to the present time, considered the allusions, the imagery, and even the story and the fable, gained through the medium of a foreign language, as so much property acquired for their own use. With a sufficient degree of pride in their learning and taste, they were probably more desirous of boasting of their own genius, and originality, and native resources, than of adding to the fame of a country, which had acquired a high reputation for its wise and learned men.

Whatever influence may be ascribed to Roman pride in this respect, the moderns are free both from the danger and the imputation of that arrogance, which disclaims all assistance from the learning of the ancients. The days of Grecian and Roman literature are too remote to excite envy. It is our pride to know what the ancients knew; to detect their errours in moral and physical science; and to relish and emulate their productions of genius and taste. Our danger is that excessive reverence for antiquity, which shall make us susceptible of those frantick notions of liberty, that many of its writers impart, and which shall give us a visionary basis for the foundation of our moral principles. Without instituting any comparison between the progress of mankind in literature and the arts at the present age and in former times; I shall here only remark, that by means of translation we give an intelligible form and substance to the writings of antiquity, in order to gratify the curiosity and extend the knowledge of our contemporaries.

Little has been written professedly on the qualities of a good translation; and I shall not undertake to discuss them. It may be said

* Several numbers under this title, originally appeared in the Literary Miscellany, a periodical work, which was published at the University press in Cambridge for two years, 1805 and 1806, and was then discontinued. The writer has consented to the republishing of those numbers in the Monthly Anthology, with a view to continue them.

briefly, that they consist in a faithful representation of the ideas of the original author, an imitation of his manner, and a strict regard to the idiom of the language into which he is translated.

In an anonymous *Essay on the principles of translation*,* nearly the same requisites, but attended with more severe restrictions, are comprised in these three propositions:

I. That the translation should give a complete transcript of the ideas of the original work.

II. That the style and manner of writing should be of the same character with that of the original.

III. That the translation should have *all* the ease of original composition.

These several qualities of a good translation, if not wholly incompatible, can be expected to meet rarely in the same work: for who can point to us a performance, which exhibits at once the ease and gracefulness of original writing, and the peculiar character of the author's composition? In most cases of translated works, it requires not the nice discernment of a *connoisseur* in style, to distinguish a copy from an original. The translator who is accurately acquainted with the language of the writer he is to translate, has in general an easy task to express his meaning; but to imitate his manner, to rise with him in all the majesty of diction, or sink to his feeble and listless phraseology; to pass from the blandishments of the softer affections to the fury of infernal passions; to lift the gentle voice of praise, or assume the angry tone of the censor; to combine the gloomy epithets of a saturnine philosophy, or to acquire the vivacity and playfulness of the man of the world, requires little less versatility of powers, than to excel in the various descriptions of original composition.

From the multiplicity of books, both ancient and modern, which have been translated into our own language, it would seem that we are determined to lose nothing, that can afford either instruction or amusement. Unfortunately too these productions are not always considered as acquisitions to learning by those who are accustomed to speak, to read, and to write pure English. It is really amusing to see what sort of shew is made by the many Grecisms, and Latinisms, and Gallicisms, which are exhibited in these various translations: in the same way as we are diverted to hear half-learned foreigners discourse in barbarous phraseology, and epithets ludicrously misapplied. But they are not observed by the refined scholar without some concern; since they tend in a degree to corrupt a language, which it is equally his pride and pleasure to preserve from all impurities. The principles of a good translation have indeed been so frequently violated, that we may, with some reservation, complain with Denham:

> Such is our pride, our folly, or our fate,
> That few, but such as cannot write, translate.

Still there have been many successful attempts to exhibit the authors of ancient times to the English reader, which cannot be too

* This anonymous *Essay* is ascribed by Sir Wm. Forbes, the biographer of Dr. Beattie, to the Hon. Alexander Fraser Tytler, Lord Woodhouselee, author of the *Elements of general history, ancient and modern*. See Beattie's Life, Appendix, p. 515.

much commended. Of these attempts the translations from the Roman poets are among the most fortunate, and deserve no small share of praise. Many who stand preeminently distinguished as poets and scholars, have been willing to forego all concern to acquire reputation for originality, and to vindicate the poets of Rome from the injuries they had received in the hands of unskilful and barbarous interpreters.

Virgil has spoken with harmony and strength in the numbers of Dryden and Pitt, and Lucan has been recognised in the dress of Rowe. Creech has been true to the sense of Lucretius, though he has fallen far short of his author, and made him dull as well as didactick. With Horace, Francis has become grave or satyrical, delicate or loose. Drummond has made poetry of Persius where he understood him, and where his author was unintelligible, he has made him write sense. Juvenal has found a translator worthy of commendation in Gifford, who has generally softened what was harsh, and refined what was too gross for modern appetites. For the lovers of the drama Colman has rendered Terence, and has preserved much of his spirit and delicacy. Ovid has had his admirers; and Garth occasionally relinquished the theory of medicine to recreate himself with the extravagance of the Metamorphoses, and to superintend the printing of an anonymous translation.

On these, and other translations, it is proposed, in a series of numbers, to make such remarks as shall occur to the writer from comparing them with the originals, as far as his opportunity and leisure shall permit. He has been persuaded to resume a task which he had once begun, not from a conviction that he had performed any part of it so well as many others would have done, but from the favourable manner in which some of his friends received those essays, which have already been before the publick, and from their solicitations to permit them again to appear in a literary magazine.

FOR THE ANTHOLOGY.

ORIGINAL LETTERS;

FROM AN AMERICAN TRAVELLER IN EUROPE, TO HIS FRIENDS IN THIS COUNTRY.

LETTER TWENTY FIFTH.

NAPLES, JANUARY 1, 1805.

MY DEAR SISTER,

I DO not know that I can more advantageously, I am sure I cannot more agreeably, consecrate the anniversary of the new year, than by devoting it to my transatlantick friends. That I tender them the usual kind wishes of the season, prosperity and happiness, cannot be questioned, and if my good will or exertions could procure

them, they would most certainly be the happiest of mortals. With the entrance of a new year, we are naturally led to reflections upon the past, and to prophecies as to the future ; we compare the present with the last anniversary, and we form opinions as to the next. At the last new year's day, I was in a country (Great Britain) enlivened by industry, enriched by commerce, governed with moderation, conducted by wisdom. The rich secure, the poor clothed and fed, amply protected against the insolence of the great, the stale calumnies against it to the contrary notwithstanding. The government strong to its enemies, mild to its subjects, yet firm and stable. The present year, I am in a country where the government is terrible only to the weak, feeble to its enemies, awful to its subjects, splendidly oppressive to the poor, and contemptibly suppliant to the powerful. Courting the emperour of the French, yet relying wholly on the prowess of the English. A nation idle, yet luxurious ; proud, yet cowardly ; debauched, yet superstitious. Its nobility, ostentatious, yet destitute of wealth ; its poor, oppressed ; its commerce, languishing ; its religion, mingled with superstition, to a degree, that renders it at once its disgrace and its ruin. Fatal to industry, as ruinous even to morality, the superstition of the Neapolitans is equally subversive of private virtue, and of publick happiness.

On the next anniversary, should I be spared to witness it, I shall be happy on my beloved, my native shores. My attachment to my country would induce me to draw a favourable picture, but my regard to truth forbids the suppression of its shades. Surrounded by every comfort and luxury which the oldest, richest, and proudest nations of Europe can boast ; with habits of industry, enterprise, and *generally* of virtue, the domestick picture of our country is inferiour to none, is indeed *superiour to any in the world.* In no part of the habitable globe does domestick society, the only foundation of private happiness, stand upon foundations so stable, so respectable, and so honourable, as in ours. Where will you find paternal solicitude, maternal tenderness, filial reverence, fraternal affection, the ties of kindred, the disinterested sentiments of friendship, general hospitality, liberality to strangers, proceeding from so pure motives or carried to so honourable a height as in the United States ? The heart of an American is congealed, when he encounters the frigid indifference of European manners. But there is a want of stability in our systems of every species, particularly our government, which threatens their subversion.

We do not feel a *security* in our enjoyments, without which all pleasures lose half their zest. Our political divisions create an asperity which invades and threatens to empoison all the springs of individual enjoyment. We can soon reconcile ourselves to the cold indifference of English manners, when we reflect upon the durability of their establishments, and upon the ramparts which protect personal rights. But when we recollect our own enjoyments, they are embittered by the reflection, that, by the madness of our passions, or, to speak more correctly, by the frailty and inevitable principles of human action, unrestrained, but rather fomented by our system of government, their existence is rendered insecure.

Quitting these moral reflections, which a thousand friends around you can place in a more interesting light, let me hasten to topicks which my local situation enables, and of course requires me to describe. We have all heard much of Naples and its environs; we have been taught to consider its natural history as fraught with wonders, as rendered delightful by its natural charms. Naples is one of the few places, that can never lose by description, because, possessing in itself the greatest and most striking beauties of nature, as well as the most wonderful, it bids defiance to human talent to equal it either by the pen or the more magick powers of the pencil. Where indeed is the adventurous and hardy genius, who would attempt to describe, on paper, or on canvass, in colours approaching those of nature, the glowing furies of Vesuvius, the smoking wonders of Solfaterra, or the milder but irresistible charms of the landscape of St. Elmo? Without attempting a task which I consider so herculean, I shall simply state to you the objects we have visited, without the colours which render them so interesting to the beholder, but which are so difficult to transcribe. The bay of Naples, is, as you have often heard, one of the most delightful objects in nature. Of a semicircular form, surrounded with verdant hills, overtopped again by lofty and picturesque mountains, its entrance ornamented by the enchanting island of Capri, it unites every trait which painters or poets have thought necessary to introduce into their pictures of the sublime and beautiful. Its mountains and shores sometimes exhibit the dreadful, and sometimes the smiling features of nature. In the first, the gloomy Salvator Rosa studied and acquired his awful, yet irresistible talent of depicturing the horribly sublime; and in the last, the celebrated Poussin, and the more interesting Claude Lorrain, caught those ravishing sketches, which have not only rendered their names immortal, but have given a pecuniary value to their works, which even the inimitable pencils of Raphael and Guido, of Corregio and Titian have scarcely attained. On the most beautiful part of this bay, the king of Naples has with great taste laid out a publick walk, called the Villa reale, the fashionable lounge of the idle and luxurious citizens of this most idle and luxurious city of Europe. This publick promenade is bounded by the sea on one side, and extends along the beach for nearly one mile; on the other, a noble street, excellently paved, affords a most agreeable route for the coaches and equipages of the city. In the midst of, and opposite to this scene of splendour, stands the celebrated hotel of the Granda Bretagna, where we reside, and where we have an opportunity to enjoy the finest scenery in the world without the smallest exertion.

Quitting this spot in an open chariot, we skirt along the beach of this enchanting bay, for about two miles, when we enter the famous, and justly distinguished grotto of *Pausilippo*, or, as the *scholars say*, "Pausilupos," from the Greek, which, they say, signifies "*grief appeasing*." This grotto is so called, because it is pierced through a mountain of *that name*, which is supposed to have that appellation on account of its beauties, its verdure, its prospect, its richness of soil, its salubrity of air. The grotto is *one* of the most wonderful works of human exertion ever discovered. It is no less than an

actual perforation of a solid mountain of rock, 2414 feet long, 21 feet wide, and from 24 to 84 feet high. In other words, it is a most perfect road cut through a mountain of rock for nearly half a mile. The bottom of the road is paved, and the passage is very practicable, and constantly crowded, but it is extremely unpleasant, and even dangerous, on account of its extreme darkness. Antiquaries are not agreed as to the authors of this most bold and stupendous project. Some sensible writers think that it is more ancient than the times of the Romans; others have attributed it to Marcus Cocceius, a Roman, from a passage in Strabo, but later criticks have thought that that passage was misconstrued.

Let the author have been Cocceius or Hercules, it is a most astonishing work. Houses, and almost a town, are built upon the mountain over it, which would have been almost impassable but for this grotto. At present you pass it in a few minutes, and upon your issuing out on the other side, you lose the city of Naples, Vesuvius, the bay of Naples, and open to the most delightful scenery in the world. You enter ground the most classick and interesting in Magna Graecia. Independent of classick story, it is beautiful in itself. Fertile, loaded with vines, orange and lemon trees, with the enchanting bay of Baia in front of you, and the mountain of Pausilippo in the rear, you would see enough to fancy that it would excite the imagination of poets, if Virgil had never sung, and if Cicero and Pliny had been mute. In advancing towards Baia, the ancient seat of Roman luxury, you coast along the beach, where the roaring waves wash the same shores which were so much the delight of the ancient senators of Rome. You look round with eagerness for the proud villas, the magnificent temples, the costly and luxurious baths, the extensive theatres, which decorated these shores.

You recollect, that tired with the toils of state, or worn out by its cares, fatigued with the pomp of the city, or desirous of withdrawing from the jealous eyes of a *despotick* court, some of the most illustrious Romans passed their days in luxurious ease in the mild and enchanting vicinity of Baia, in the interesting scenery of Magna Graecia. But alas! volcanoes, earthquakes, the ocean, and time, more destructive than all, have rendered this delightful abode of luxury and taste, the most desert and forlorn country of Europe. The remnants of former grandeur, and the curiosities it now contains, shall be the subject of a future letter.

MEMOIRS OF PROFESSOR PORSON.

> Compositum jus fasque animi, sanctosque recessus
> Mentis, et incoctum generoso pectus honesto.
>
> PERS.

IT is equally the duty and the province of this miscellany to call the attention of our contemporaries to examples of departed worth, and to stimulate the exertions of those, whose intimacy with the deceased, and whose knowledge of their characters, at once ani-

mates and enables them to pourtray their merits with an exactness of drawing and strength of colouring, proportioned to the importance of the subject.

In no instance have we felt this duty more imperious, in no instance is the discharge of it more difficult, than when we find ourselves called upon to record the death of Mr. Professor Porson. His talents and attainments were exercised in a path of literature so rarely trodden, that few minds, except his own, could measure exactly the extent of his discoveries ; and, besides the difficulty of giving interest to a life of study, his early years were passed in an unusual degree of privacy. It would, therefore, be a task of peculiar nicety, to state with accuracy, the facts of his initiation into letters ; and still more to develope, with precision, the effect those uncommon circumstances produced upon his growing understanding.

Having thus briefly stated the arduous nature of the duty imposed upon us, we nevertheless feel that it is our duty to attempt, at least in some degree, to trace the lineaments of this incomparable scholar's mind, and to point out the reasons, for which we must consider his death as the most irreparable loss that classical literature has ever yet sustained.

The circumstances of his early education, and the more prominent incidents of his life, have been detailed with great ability in a periodical publication,* by a writer, in whom the means of information have been combined with a most anxious and natural desire to pay a deserved tribute to the memory of a departed and most distinguished relative. Insufficient as the time has been to collect ampler materials, we cannot do justice to the subject more completely, than by adopting this account as the *ground work* of our notice, and subjoining such observations upon a character so remarkable, as an accurate study of his works, added to the impressions made by our own personal knowledge, has suggested to us upon this melancholy occasion.

" Richard Porson was born at East Ruston, in Norfolk, on Christmas day, 1759 ; so that he was only in his forty ninth year. Every thing about this most eminent scholar, and particularly the circumstances which laid the foundation of that most inestimable memory, by which he was enabled to store his mind with all the riches of literature, ancient and modern, will become truly interesting to the world. He owed the blessing to the care and judgment of his father, Mr. Huggin Porson, who was parish clerk of East Ruston ; and who, though in humble life, and without the advantages himself of early education, laid the basis of his son's

* Morning Chronicle, Thursday, October the 8th, 1808. We of course adopt this, not merely as an authentick account, but as the production of an acute and vigorous mind. We have understood that there are one or two inaccuracies relating to some transactions at Cambridge ; but we are sure they are quite involuntary ; and, if such be the case, we have no doubt that the author will correct them in the more detailed account which he promises, and which the world will expect from him with singular anxiety.

unparalleled acquirements. From the earliest dawn of intellect, Mr. Porson began the task of fixing the attention of his children, three sons and a daughter; and he had taught Richard, his eldest son, all the common rules of arithmetick, without the use of a book or slate, pen or pencil, up to the cube root, before he was nine years of age. The memory was thus incessantly exercised; and by this early habit of working a question in arithmetick by the mind only, he acquired such a talent of close and intense thinking, and such a power of arranging every operation that occupied his thought, as in process of time, to render the most difficult problems, which, to other men required the assistance of written figures, easy to the retentive faculties of his memory. He was initiated in letters by a process equally efficacious. His father taught him to read and write at one and the same time. He drew the form of the letter either with chalk on a board, or with the finger in sand; and Richard was made at once to understand and imitate the impression. As soon as he could speak, he could trace the letters; and this exercise delighting his fancy, an ardour of imitating whatever was put before him was excited to such a degree, that the walls of the house were covered with characters, which attracted notice, from their neatness and fidelity of delineation.

"At nine years of age, he and his youngest brother, Thomas, were sent to the village school, kept by a Mr. Summers, a plain but most intelligent and worthy man; who, having had the misfortune in infancy to cripple his left hand, was educated for the purpose of teaching, and he discharged his duties with the most exemplary attention. He professed nothing beyond English, writing and arithmetick, with the rudiments of Latin; he was a good accountant, and an excellent writing master. He perfected the Professor in that delightful talent of writing, in which he so peculiarly excelled; but which, we are doubtful whether it was to be considered as an advantage or a detriment to him in his progress through life. It certainly had a considerable influence on his habits, and made him devote many precious moments to copying, which might have been better employed in composition. It has been the means, however, of enriching his library with annotations, in a text the most beautiful, and with such perfect imitation of the original manuscript or printing, as to embellish every work which his erudition enabled him to elucidate. He continued under Mr. Summers for three years; and every evening during that time, he had to repeat by heart, to his father, the lessons and tasks of the day; and this, not in a loose or desultory manner, but in the rigorous order in which whatever he had been occupied about had been done; and thus, again, the process of recollection was cherished and strengthened, so as to become a quality of his mind. It was impossible that such a youth should remain unnoticed, even in a place so thinly peopled, and so obscure, as the parish of East Ruston. The Rev. Mr. Hewitt heard of his extraordinary propensities to study, his gift of attention to whatever was taught him, and the wonderful fidelity with which he retained whatever he had acquired. He took him and his brother Thomas under his care, and instructed them in the classicks. The progress of both was

great, but that of Richard was most extraordinary. It became the topick of astonishment beyond the district, and when he had reached his fourteenth year, had engaged the notice of all the gentlemen in the vicinity. Among others, he was mentioned as a prodigy to an opulent and liberal man, the late Mr. Norris; who, after having put the youth under an examination of the severest kind, and from which an ordinary boy would have shrunk dismayed, sent him to Eton. This happened in the month of August, 1774, when he was in his fifteenth year; and in that great seminary, he, almost from the commencement of his career, displayed such a superiority of intellect, such facility of acquirement, such quickness of perception, and such a talent of bringing forward to his purpose all that he had ever read, that the upper boys took him into their society, and promoted the cultivation of his mind by their lessons, as well, probably, as by imposing upon him the performance of their own exercises. He was courted by them, as the never failing resource in every difficulty; and in all the playful excursions of the imagination, in their frolicks, as well as in their serious tasks, Porson was the constant adviser and support. He used to dwell on this lively part of his youth with peculiar complacency; and we have heard him repeat a drama, which he wrote for exhibition in their long chamber, and other compositions, both of seriousness and drollery, with a zest that the recollection of his enjoyment at the time, never failed to revive in him. We fear, however, that at this early age, his constitution received a shock, which was soon after aggravated by the death of his worthy patron. An imposthume formed on his lungs, and he was threatened by a consumption. But it fortunately broke, and he recovered his health, though his frame was weakened.

"The death of Mr. Norris was the source of severe mortification to him; for though, by the kindness of some eminent and liberal persons he was continued at Eton, he felt the loss he had sustained in the most poignant degree. But we do not mean, this day at least, to do more than trace the dates of his progress to the Professor's chair. He was entered of Trinity College towards the end of 1777; and, his character having gone before him to the University, he was, from the first, regarded as a youth, whose extraordinary endowments would keep up and extend the reputation of the unrivalled society into which he had entered. Nor did he disappoint the hopes that had been formed of him. In every branch of study to which he applied himself, his course was so rapid as to astonish every competent observer. By accidents, which in a more detailed biographical article will be explained, he was drawn first to read in mathematicks, in which, from his early exercises, he was so eminently calculated to shine, but from which he drew no benefit; and then, by the prospect of a scholarship, which, however, did not become vacant till long after, he sat down to the classicks. In this pursuit, he soon acquired undisputed preeminence. He got the medal of course, and was elected a Fellow in 1781. In 1785, he took his degree of Master of Arts; but, long before the period had elapsed when he must either enter into holy orders, or surrender his fellowship, he had, after the most grave and deliberate investigation, to which he had brought

all that acute gift of examination that has been made so perceptible in his letters to Mr. Archdeacon Travis, made up his mind on the subject of subscription. We are sure that his determination cost him many painful and laborious days and months of study. His heart and mind were deeply penetrated by the purest sentiments of religion ; and it was a memorable, and most estimable feature of his character, that in no moment the most unguarded, when that ardour of discussion, which alone led him to indulgence, had elevated his spirits, was he ever known to utter a single expression of discontent at the establishment, of derision of those who thought differently from himself, much less of profaneness or impiety. He was truly and actively pious ; but it was of an order that admitted not of shackles. So early as 1788, he had made up his mind to surrender his Fellowship, though with an enfeebled constitution, he had nothing to depend upon, but acquirements, that are very unprofitable to their owner. A Lay Fellowship, to be sure, might have secured his services to the cause of letters ; but the disingenuous conduct of an individual withheld from him that resource. In 1791, his Fellowship ceased, and he was thrown upon the world without a profession, his feelings wounded by the mortifications he had suffered, and with a constitution little qualified to encounter the bustle of the world. Some private friends, however, stept in ; and, soon after, he was elected Greek Professor of Cambridge, by an unanimous vote of the seven electors. The distinction of this appointment was grateful to him. The salary is but forty pounds a year. It was his earnest wish, however, to have made it an active and efficient office, and it was his determination to give an annual course of Lectures in the College, if rooms had been assigned him for the purpose. These Lectures, as he designed, and had in truth made preparations for them, would have been invaluable ; for he would have found occasion to elucidate the languages in general, and to have displayed their relations, their differences, their near and remote connections, their changes, their structure, their principles of etymology, and their causes of corruption. If any one man was qualified for this gigantick task, it was Mr. Professor Porson ; and if his wishes had not been counteracted, we know that he would have undertaken the labour.

" From this time, instead of lectures, he turned his thoughts to publication. His letters to Mr. Archdeacon Travis, as has been truly said, put the controversy on the disputed text to rest ; and, indeed, it was the peculiar felicity of his mind, that whatever he undertook to elucidate, he fixed for ever in the light.

" In 1795, he married Mrs. Lunan, the sister of Mr. Perry, of this paper, but who sunk under a decline in 1797 ; and, from that time, the Professor himself was so incessantly afflicted with a spasmodick asthma, as to interrupt him in every study to which he applied himself. Whether his sedentary habits served to bring it on, we know not ; but certainly very few men had accustomed themselves to such patient and continued toil. He had undertaken to make out and copy the almost obliterated manuscript of the invaluable Lexicon of Photius, which he had borrowed from the

Library of Trinity College. And this he had, with unparalleled difficulty just completed, when the beautiful copy, which had cost him ten months of incessant toil, was burnt in the house of Mr. Perry, at Merton. The original being an *unique*, intrusted to him by his College, he carried with him wherever he went ; and he was fortunately absent from Merton on the morning of the fire. Unruffled by the loss, he sat down without a murmur, and made a second copy, as beautiful as the first. It is extant in his library, and is quite ready for the press. Of the plays of Euripides, which he published, the learned world has pronounced its judgment, and we reserve for another occasion, an account of this and his other literary labours. It may be pleasant for our readers, however, to know, that he has left an Orestes quite ready for the press.

" On the establishment of the London Institution, the Managers manifested their own discernment and love of letters, by selecting him to be their principal Librarian, an appointment for which he was peculiarly qualified, and if time and health had been allowed him, he would have made their library truly valuable. His own, which he has been gradually collecting for thirty years, he has enriched by annotations of such value and importance to literature, that we hope and trust, the whole will be placed in his own college, that it may for ever be within the reach of those whom his example may arouse to similar pursuits, though they may despair of reaching equal attainments.

" We have said, that we should feel it our duty to correct some of the mistatements that have gone forth, as to his habits of life, and as to the circumstances of his death ; but we have scarcely left ourselves room, after this hasty sketch, written since our return from paying the last duties of inconsolable friendship to his remains, to perform the task. Mr. Porson, as we have stated before, has, for the last eleven years, been the incessant victim of spasmodick asthma, during the agony of which he never went to bed, and in which he was forced to abstain from all sustenance. This greatly debilitated his body ; and, about a month ago, he was afflicted by an intermittent fever. He had an unfortunate objection to medical advice, and he resorted to his usual remedy of abstinence ; but on Monday, the nineteenth ult. he suffered an apoplectick stroke, from which he recovered only to endure a second attack the next day. He languished to the Sunday night, and expired without a struggle. The body was opened by his medical attendants, and they have given a report, ascribing his death " to the effused lymph in and upon the brain, which they believe to have been the effect of recent inflammation. The heart was sound, and the pericardium contained the usual quantity of lymph. The left lung had adhesions to the pleura, and bore the marks of former inflammation. The right lung was in a perfect sound state." This is signed by Dr. Babington, Sir William Blizard, Mr. Norris, Mr. Blizard, and Mr. Upton. In refutation of an idle falsehood about the form of his skull, they add, " that it was thinner than usual, and of hard consistence."

" Mr. Porson has left a sister living, an amiable and accomplished woman. She is the wife of Siday Hawes, Esq. of Coltishall, in Norfolk ; they have five children ; their eldest son is entered at

Bennet College, Cambridge. Henry, the second brother of the Professor, was settled in a farm in Essex, and died young, leaving three children. His brother Thomas kept a boarding school at Fakenham, was an excellent scholar, and died in 1792, without issue; and his father, Mr. Huggin Porson, died in October, 1806, in his 78th year. His mother died in 1784, aged 57. These few particulars may satisfy, for the time, the impatience of all those who knew his incomparable talents, but who were unacquainted with his private history. We shall hereafter speak of the character of his mind, and of the various attainments in which he had no rival."

The most remarkable among the intellectual powers of Richard Porson, was unquestionably that of memory. It was at once obvious to every one who had the good fortune to be in his company; and it never ceased to excite the admiration of those who had most frequently an opportunity of conversing with him. Every thing he had read and what was there worthy, or, indeed, unworthy of literary notice, which he had not read ?* appeared to be present to his mind, with uncommon precision. Whensoever a subject connected with English, French, Latin, or Greek poetry was started, he would recite some brilliant and striking passage, at considerable length, in the words of the author. And in the latter language more especially, which was his favourite study, he was so completely master, not only of the words of the author in question, but of every circumstance relating to the words, that he would expatiate upon the various readings, and the points of grammar and criticism connected with them, in such a manner, as to produce the effect of a complete and well digested Variorum Commentary. We remember to have heard him relate one or two incidents which occurred at different, although both early, periods of his life, which will illustrate this quality of his mind far better than any laboured detail.

When he was very young, perhaps at the time when he was under the care of Mr. Summers, returning to his father's cottage, he lost his way, and found shelter in the house of a little farmer, whose son, somewhat older than Porson, had just quitted school. With this boy, Porson was to sleep; but, instead of betaking himself to his slumbers, he began questioning his companion concerning what he had learned at school. He found him a most admirable arithmetician; and passed the night in proposing questions, which the other answered to his satisfaction as well as surprise; for at last he found him capable of multiplying nine figures by nine in his head, an operation which was quite familiar to our young Professor,

* Upon this subject we have been favoured with the following observations from the respectable writer, to whom we are already so greatly indebted for the knowledge of many interesting particulars.

"It was one of the peculiar traits of his mind that it rejected no aliment. He was equally well read in Joe Miller, and the Fathers, as in Greek literature. And in the very lowest, as well as highest branches of human learning, his memory was equally retentive. In his power over figures, though he was at an early age diverted from mathematicks, Mr. P. never knew his equal. His quickness in bringing out the result of a most intricate and manifold calculation by mental working, was magical. He had formed for himself a species of short hand in figures, if we may use the term, that had the most astonishing brevity and truth."

When at Eton, as he was going to his tutor's, to construe an Horace lesson preparatory to the business of school, one of the senior boys took Porson's Horace from him, and thrust into his hands some English book. The tutor called upon Porson to construe, and the other boys were much amused in considering the figure he would make in this emergency. Porson, however, who had Horace by heart before he went to Eton, knowing where the lesson was to begin, began without hesitation,

Mercuri facunde, nepos Atlantis:

and went on regularly, first reciting the Latin and then giving the Latin and English, as if he had really had the author before him. The tutor, perceiving some symptoms of astonishment as well as mirth amongst the other boys, suspected that there was something unusual in the affair, and inquired what edition of Horace Porson had in his hand. "I learned the lesson from the Delphin," replied his pupil, avoiding a direct answer. "That is very odd," replied the other, "for you seem to be reading in a different side of the page from myself. Let me see your book." The truth was of course then discovered; but the master, instead of shewing any displeasure, wisely and kindly observed to the others, that he should be most happy to find any of them acquitting themselves as well in a similar predicament.

The sensible and well written Memoir, above quoted, accounts in some degree for the extent to which this invaluable faculty of his mind was at length carried; but it certainly must be allowed that very strong original powers, and intense application in after life must have been required in order to secure the attainment of such a blessing. It should be remembered to the honour of the Professor, that he never appeared in any degree vain of this astonishing talent; and he once observed to the writer of this paper, "I never remembered any thing but what I transcribed three times, or read over six times at the least; and, if you will do the same, you will have as good a memory." Indeed he was at all times the warm advocate of a doctrine, which is as true as it is important in the conduct of education. He maintained that superiority of intellect and of attainments was not so much owing to a difference in the formation of the organs, as in the mode by which education was conducted. And although such a man as Porson could not have failed to have been distinguished for the strength and acuteness of his understanding, under any circumstances, yet it cannot be doubted that the habits of his earlier years contributed much to that force and precision in his memory, for which he was so eminently distinguished.

There were other qualities in this great man's mind, although not so obvious to a common observer, nor so dazzling, yet even more rare and more useful. These were his extraordinary acuteness of discernment, and solidity of judgment; and these, added to his intense application and stupendous memory, made him, what the world perhaps never saw before, and, alas! can not soon see again, A COMPLETE CRITICK, in the most honourable and extended sense of that appellation. His reading was of course immense; he was an excellent French scholar; but, in his native language, in the

Latin, and in the Greek, he was most familiarly and profoundly versed. He had indeed applied the knowledge he had gained of the origin and structure of language in general, to all these dialects, if we may so express ourselves, of the universal language; and, had not his eminence in classical literature, by its uncommon lustre, obscured other attainments, he would doubtless have been considered as *one of the first* English scholars. In Greek, however, we have no hesitation in pronouncing him *the very first*, not merely of his own age, but of every other. He is surely entitled to this honourable distinction, when we consider that he possessed at once, each in its highest degree of excellence, all the qualities for which any single scholar has hitherto been eminent. In him were conspicuous, boundless extent of reading; a most exact and well ordered memory; unwearied patience in unravelling the sense of an author, and exploring the perplexities of a manuscript; perspicacity in discovering the corruptions of a text; and acuteness, almost intuitive, in restoring the true reading. All this, be it observed, was tempered with a judgment, which preserved him invariably from the rocks against which even the greatest of his critical predecessors have at some time or other split; we mean precipitation in determining that to be unsound, which after all had no defect; and rashness in applying remedies, which only served to increase the disease.

In thus pronouncing him superiour to Salmasius, Casaubon, Hemsterhusius, Toup, Dawes, and even to Bentley and Valckenaer, some of our readers may perhaps be of opinion, that he has published too little to justify this high encomium. To these we must reply in the words of the old proverb, *ex pede Herculem;* and we would boldly refer to the four plays of Euripides, with the Preface and Supplement, as the work of a critick, soaring in genius and in attainment above his predecessors. When, moreover, we appeal to those exquisite specimens of profound knowledge and critical acumen, which he so liberally communicated to his friends, we have no hesitation in giving it as our opinion, that what is yet unpublished, is equal, both in value and extent, to that which has already been submitted to the world. And we have only to express our most ardent and decided wish, that some steps may be immediately taken in order to collect all the remains of this admirable scholar, for the purpose of publication; whether they be recorded in the memories and books of his friends, or whether they be treasured among his own literary κειμηλια.

In the enumeration of those qualities, which contributed to raise this wonderful man to such a proud preeminence, it would be unpardonable to forget the point and brilliancy of his wit. It is difficult to define this faculty as it exists in any mind; but it is peculiarly so as it appeared in that of Porson, on account of the variety, as well as beauty, of the forms it assumed. At one time it was the happy talent of enlivening and illustrating a subject by a peculiarly apt and dexterous quotation;* at another, it scattered at will the

* He once said that he wished to be called upon for a second edition of his Letters to Travis, and in that case he meant to prefix this as a motto:

Quo, moriture, ruis, majoraque viribus audes?
Fallit te incautum *pietas* tua.

Attick salt, which gave so much vivacity to the controversies of Bentley, and which diffuses such peculiar splendour over the polemical gloom of the Letters to Archdeacon Travis ; at other times this superiour genius wielded the more concealed, but caustick, weapon, which probed to the quick the follies and the vices of mankind in the Satires of Swift. Such, and so various, were the powers of Richard Porson, that by turns we are in doubt whether we have been more facinated by his wit, or astonished at his learning.

To these intellectual excellencies, faintly and imperfectly as they are pourtrayed, were added strong and admirable moral qualities ; the most inflexible spirit of integrity ; a most inviolable regard to truth ; and their necessary concomitants, the most determined independence. By precept, as well as example, he discountenanced all violent emotions of the mind, and particularly that of anger. His sentiments upon the subject of Religion it was difficult, at least for such persons as did not enjoy opportunities of frequent and familiar intercourse with him, to collect with precision. We are, however, enabled to state, as the decided conviction of those, who were more particularly honoured with his confidence, that his faith was steady in the pure and consoling truths of Christianity. In his interpretation of some parts of the sacred volume, he certainly differed from the Church of England ; but his dissent was unmixed with any tincture of undue or schismatical warmth in favour of a system, to which, after mature and painful deliberation, he felt himself bound to adhere. For the name of God he ever observed the most pious reverence ; nor ever would he suffer it to be profaned in his presence. Obscene language was in an equal degree the object of his antipathy and disgust.

He undoubtedly had a warm sense of kindness to himself ; and felt more than he expressed, of benevolence towards others ! Of every thing mean, base, insolent, treacherous or selfish, whether practised towards others or towards himself, he had a quick discernment and a most rooted abhorrence ; and the terms of bitter contempt, or of severe indignation, in which he expressed himself upon such occasions, may have given rise to opinions concerning the real bent of his feelings, which those, who had frequent opportunities of observing him, can safely pronounce to be unfounded.

From this attempt to shew the cast of his moral character, it appears, that as the features of his mind were robust, so were the virtues of his heart stern. Indeed, in many of their better points, he has frequently reminded us of the old Stoicks ; but if he did take Cato for his model, it is seriously to be lamented that he imitated him in one of his defects.* We have no doubt that the *tempestiva convivia*, in which the Professor loved to indulge, owed their origin to a sleeplessness first brought on by habits of study, and subsequently increased by indisposition ; but whatever was the cause, deeply do we deplore this additional instance of infirmity attached to the greatest and most shining excellencies. We must,

* Mart. Epig. Lib. ii. 89.

however, carefully guard our readers from supposing that this eminently learned man was habitually addicted to the use of strong and heating liquors. When alone, he was singularly abstemious. And again we must urge the observation that his late hours were not occasioned by the *vice* of intemperance, but by the *misfortune* of his inability to sleep. His usual and favourite beverage upon these occasions was table beer ; and continually would he pass the night, charming and instructing those who sat around, without the slightest advance to inebriety. But sometimes the officious zeal of his less discreet companions would supply temptations, against which he was not sufficiently upon his guard ; and towards the latter part of his life, his frame, undermined as it unhappily was by the corrosions of disease, could ill sustain, and consequently betrayed, the least indulgence. Yet be it observed that, in no moment of gaiety, carried even to a faulty excess, did he ever lose that reverence for the name of his Creator, and that loathing of obscenity, which we have already mentioned as honourable characteristicks of his moral tendencies ; never did he swerve from his undeviating attachment to truth, nor ever was he known to betray a secret.

In a subsequent number we propose to give an account of the Professor's publications, and to collect, as well as we may be enabled, some of those lighter productions which are dispersed in the fugitive publications of the day.

HELLENOPHILUS.

AIKIN'S ATHENAEUM.

October 17, 1808.

SILVA, No. 47.

Inter silvas Academi quaerere verum.

Hor. Lib. 2. Ep. 2. v. 45.

To search for truth in Academick groves.

ACADEMIES.

AMONG the miserable transmigrations, wanderings, and travesties, which persons and things have undergone in this world, none have been more remarkable, whether we consider the lustre of original rank, or the variety and depth of subsequent degradation, than the genius of the ancient academy. From the destruction of that grove in whose shade the sublime philosophy of Plato was taught to the illustrious men of Greece, he next revived in the scientifick academies of Italy, France, and England, where his rank was long respectable, though he was forced in the former country to shield some associations of *dillettanti*. But at length his humiliation became as excessive, as it was widely spread. Those who taught to skip in measure, or to box by rule, to play the fiddle, or to play the jockey, were all academicians. In our country too, this unfortunate genius has been obliged to *lend his name* to schools in every village, where plebeian urchins are to be instructed *how* to read, to

write, and "*speak pieces!*" Eheu! But though "he has still been falling," it seems there is yet "a lower deep," which we now extract, as it is printed in a Philadelphia paper.

MRS. ANCORA, respectfully informs the publick, that, induced by respectable persons, and by the proffered assistance of eminent masters, she is enabled to form an establishment for the education of YOUNG LADIES; which, by the different branches therein to be taught, takes the title of "ACADEMY OF THE UNITED SCIENCES."

Impressed with the solemnity of the task, at the same time with an ardent desire of meriting the approbation of parents, she pledges herself that, whatever can conduce to the advancement of this moral institution, shall receive her most active attention.

Madam Ancora's Academy will differ in the following particulars from other female institutions, viz. all her pupils will be day scholars. Terms per annum 40 dollars, and 2 and an half dollars entrance.

Forty pupils only will be admitted.

Mr. Ancora will himself teach drawing and painting in all its varieties.

Teachers of the first respectability will assist Mrs. Ancora.

Mr. John Riley, late principal of Frankford academy, will teach grammar, history, geography, and the use of the globes.

Mr. Carver, writing and arithmetick.

Madam Ancora, sewing, marking, embroidery, &c.

The academy will be opened at No. 53, South Fifth street, the first Monday in January next.

Have you remarked, reader, that Mr. Ancora will HIMSELF teach "drawing and painting in all their varieties," and Madam Ancora, "sewing, marking, embroidery," the united sciences!!

"Blow winds, and crack your cheeks."

MANTO.

The following passage by Manto, has always struck me as extremely beautiful; the literal translation, that follows it, may give pleasure to some, who are unacquainted with the Italian language.

Descrizione d'un Cristo, legato alla Colonna.

Di marmo è la colonna;
Di marmo son gli empi ministri, e rei;
E tu, pure signor, di marmo sei!
Marmo ella è per natura;
Marmo quei per durezza;
Tu marmo per costanza et per fortezza.
Ed io, che di pietade, et di cordoglio,
Spettator ne rimango,
Marmo son, se non piango.

"Of marble is the column, of marble the impious officers and malefactors, and thou too, Lord, art of marble. That is so by nature, those in cruelty, and thou art marble in constancy and fortitude; and I, who from piety and compassion remain the spectator, must be marble, if I do not weep."

ALPHABETS.

One would think, that the letters of the alphabet had little to do with sentiment, and that the study of their changes and their meaning would afford neither amusement nor instruction. But Lucian gives us a formidable account of a controversy in his own language between the sigma and the tau ; and a modern writer has found out, that the Hebrew letters are named from their resemblance to animals and things. Lucian makes *sigma* bring an action against *tau*, for turning him out of places of no small consequence ; as in Θαλατη, Θετταλια, Γλωττα, &c. The cause was tried before the vowels ; whose sentence was, that *tau* should remain and exhibit in his form, which, being that of a gallows, would be a just punishment for his offence. The modern writer alluded to has had the penetration to discover that *aleph* א, which signifies an ox, resembles the head of that animal. Gimel ג signifies a camel ; hence the deformity of the animal is entailed upon its poor representative, which must for ever appear with a hump on its back. The author probably found these speculations very amusing :

..... "Idem jungat vulpes, et mulgeat hircos."

BLAIR'S GRAVE.

Blair's Grave, I think, was extravagantly praised by a writer, some time since, in the Anthology. It contains, unquestionably, fine passages, but has no pretensions to the claim of a finished production, as it is debased by low and burlesque expressions. If it is not a posthumous work, the writer is inexcusable for these defects, and can never rank amongst first rate authors.

Why this *ado* in earthing up a *carcass*
That's fallen into disgrace, and in the *nostril*
Smells horrible? Ye undertakers, tell us,
Midst all the gorgeous figures you exhibit,
Why is the principal concealed, for which
You make this *mighty stir.*

If I have any knowledge of poetry, or of dignity of language, I pronounce the words marked in Italicks as beneath the dignity of the didactick muse.

The following line is not metre, unless we give an unauthorized accent to the word *sufferance*.

Is no protection from the rude sufferance.

Speaking of an Egyptian pyramid, he says,

whose spiky top
Has *wounded* the thick cloud.

An expression extravagant, and inconsistent with true taste.

The labour of whole ages *lumbers down*,
Sepulchral columns *wrestle* but in vain
With all subduing Time. *Her* cankering hand, &c.

Lumbers down is a low expression, columns *wrestling* with time is burlesque, and old father Time turned into an old woman is ridiculous.

The strong man,
By stronger arm *belaboured*, gasps for breath.
See how he tugs for life, and *lays about him*,
Mad with his pain.

These lines remind me of the famous exploit achieved by the knight of the woful countenance, who *belaboured* the goat skins, and so *laid about him*, that he shed a great deal of good wine, which he imagined was the blood of formidable giants.

He terminates a fine passage with the following comparison.

Like a disabled pitcher of no use.

Which puts one in mind of the excellent old song in the praise of leather bottles.

Now had it been in a leather *bottell*,
The liquor'd been safe, and all had been well,
And I wish that his soul in heaven may dwell,
Who first devised the leather *bottell*.

He addresses Death in the following extraordinary language ;

O great *man-eater*,
Methinks the countless swarms thou hast devoured,
And thousands that each hour thou *gobblest up*, &c.

This brings to my recollection the story of Jack the Giant-killer, Tommy Trip, and Holothrumbo, the redoubtable giant, who ate five little boys for breakfast, and sixteen for dinner. The Dragon of Wantley was also a great *man eater*, or rather *boy eater*, of whom the poet says ;

Houses and churches
To him were geese and turkies.
Children three
Devoured he,
Who could not with him grapple ;
And at one sup
He ate them up,
As one would eat an apple.

However, this is a *grave* subject, and I have done, begging pardon of the publick for having been guilty of any thing so detestable as a pun.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE ANTHOLOGY.

NATURAL HISTORY.

BOSTON, JANUARY 9, 1809.

GENTLEMEN,

I PRESUME that among the other branches of science, which your valuable miscellany was intended to encourage, that of the natural history of our own country will claim a place.

I not only do not make any professions of attainment in this valuable department of knowledge, but I most expressly disclaim any such pretensions.

I have, however, remarked, that industry and zeal sometimes compensate for defect of profoundness and solidity; and perhaps society owes as much to the well meant and active exertions of enthusiastick individuals, as to the researches of more penetrating minds whose sedentary habits frequently paralyze their exertions.

My curiosity was excited by the advertisement of a whale to be exhibited at Charlestown. I considered this animal as one of the noblest of creation inferiour to man. I knew that the opportunities for examining individuals of this class by men whose habits fit them for accurate observation were rare; and it will appear in the course of this communication, that the most celebrated naturalists of Europe, have cited *but two* cases in which this particular species has been examined on shore.

In all other instances they must have relied wholly upon the relation of individuals, not at all calculated either by their education or habits to give accurate descriptions of this extraordinary and singular race of animals.

Before I proceed to give the description of the individual lately exhibited, I may save some trouble, and afford some amusement to your readers, by giving the Linnaean account and divisions of the several genera and species of the cetaceous order.

Linnaeus's first genus is called Monodon. But as this genus has two teeth in the upper jaw, and as the fish now exhibited has none, we may lay this genus out of the case.

His second genus is called Balaena, and includes the following species;

1st. Mysticetus. This species having *no fin* upon the back, can not be the one now exhibited.

2d. Species. Physalus. Spiracles double in the middle of the head, at the extremity of the back a soft fin; English name Fin Fish; inhabits the American and European seas, equalling in length the common whale, but much more slender, and less fat; mouth longer, whalebone shorter, blue, ejects water from his spiracles with great force, body brown, shining, beneath white, dorsal fin straight, acute, 3 to 4 feet long.

3d. Species. Boops. Spiracle double, a *horny* protuberance at the extremity of the back; inhabits the south and northern oceans; 46 feet long; very smooth skin; black; belly white, longitudinally

wrinkled ; head oblong ; snout sharpish ; tongue 5 feet long ; eyes placed near the angles of the mouth. English name, Pikeheaded.

4th. Gibbosa. This animal has no dorsal fin, and is of course out of the question.

5th. Musculus. Spiracles double ; under jaw very *broad ;* inhabits the coast of Scotland ; 78 feet long ; body above, black, beneath, white ; lower jaw semicircular, upper sharp ; mouth very large ; horny laminae, or whalebone, black, very short ; spiracle double, pyramidal, divided by a partition ; belly wrinkled ; dorsal fin fat.

6th. Rostrata. Is too small, and does not agree in any respect with the individual now exhibited.

Third genus. Physeter. This genus differs in every respect from the one now exhibited.

Mr. Pennant in his Zoology gives the description of many species, but as his description of the Balaena Musculus agrees most accurately with the one in question, we shall insert only that.

" Balaena tripinnis maxillam inferiorem rotundam et superiore multo latiorem habens."

He adds, " The character of this species, is to have the lower lip broader than the upper, and of a semicircular form."

" That taken in 1692, near Abercorn castle, was 78 feet long, circumference 35 feet ; gape, or rictus, very wide ; the tongue 15 feet and an half long ; the mouth furnished with whalebone about 3 feet in length ; on the forehead two spout holes of a pyramidal form ; the eyes placed 13 feet from the end of the nose ; the pectoral fins 10 feet long ; the back fin about 3 feet high, near the tail, which was 18 feet broad ; the belly full of folds ; is said to feed on herrings.

To the above description of Mr. Pennant, I add the account of the same species by Mons. Lacepede in his supplement to Buffon. It is in his second genus, and second subgenus. Name, Balaenoptera Rorqual. Synonime, Balaena Musculus. Linnaeus

Specifick character.

" Under jaw round, much more advanced than the upper ; the head short in proportion to the tail."

" It inhabits the temperate parts of the ocean from the 60th degree of north latitude, to the 35th of the same ; feeds upon herrings ; black on the back ; very white on the belly ; whalebone does not exceed 4 feet, diminishing to 5 inches, terminated by long hairs ; eyes situated near the angle formed by the lips ; its fat seldom exceeds one foot in thickness, and frequently is not more than 4 inches ; all the under part of the belly presents longitudinal folds, or furrows from 2 inches to 2 inches and an half in width, and the spaces between the folds are about equal."

" Dalechamp, a learned physician of Lyons, who died in 1588, in a note upon Pliny, states, that he saw one of this species which was cast ashore at Montpelier ; he describes it thus ;

" Balaenarum plana et levis cutis est, orcarum *canaliculatim striata* qualem vidimus in littus ejectam prope Monspesulum."

We shall add the description of the whale now exhibited, from actual mensuration, and let naturalists decide whether the assignment of him to the species of the Balaena Musculus be, or be not correct.

This whale was found floating on the surface, not far from Salem in Massachusetts, in about the 43d degree of north latitude.

His back is of a very dark brown colour, approaching to black ; his belly perfectly white, longitudinally furrowed, or wrinkled ; the folds about 2 inches wide ; his form broad over the head and shoulders, exceedingly taper and slender towards the tail. His general shape precisely corresponds to the figure of the Balaenoptera Rorqual, or Balaena Musculus, as given in a plate by Lacepede. Length from the nose to the end of the tail, in a straight line, 60 feet ; circumference near the pectoral fins, 35 feet. Under jaw 12 feet long, 3 feet longer than the upper, and much broader ; the eyes placed near the angle of the lips, and 13 feet from the tip of the nose, about 2 feet *above* the angle or plane of the mouth ; the visible part of the eye small, and the transparent cornea white. Lateral fins situated in the largest part of the body, 18 feet from the nose, about 6 feet long. Tail horizontal, 3 feet broad, and 14 feet from point to point ; spiracles double ; dorsal fin fat, and about 2 feet long, and 12 from the tail.

This individual was a male.

It will be perceived that this fish agrees, in his proportion, and his essential characters, with the Balaena Musculus of Linnaeus. He is somewhat smaller than the only one of which naturalists give us a precise description, to wit, the one found near Abercorn Castle ; but perhaps the mensuration in that case was made over the surface of his body, which would make a variation of 10 or 12 feet ; this one was measured on the ground, as he laid upon the beach, in a perfectly strait line.

On the whole, we have the pleasure to find in this instance, that the descriptions of approved and justly celebrated naturalists have a degree of accuracy which one would scarcely have expected to find of an astonishing and stupendous animal, which Providence in its wisdom has made so rare, that we have seldom the opportunity to examine him in such a situation as to be able to ascertain his precise dimensions and characteristicks.

If, gentlemen, this dry and tedious description, shall, in the smallest degree, contribute to promote the objects of your useful work, I shall be amply rewarded.

A SUBSCRIBER.

ACCOUNT OF MR. PELHAM'S SYSTEM OF NOTATION.

[In presenting the publick the following account of a late ingenious work, we are sensible that we do not consult the taste of those, who read only for amusement. But we have been sorry to find, that no one, as far as we know, has yet taken notice of its merits, or called to it the attention of the publick. As far as we have examined

it, we have been first pleased with the accuracy, and we may say sobriety of the pronunciation; equally removed from the extremes of foppery and vulgarity. It is true, we were at first rather alarmed at the bristled appearance of the page, but a very little attention satisfied us, that the apparent complexity soon vanished, and we found a system of marks expressing all the sounds of the English language with great simplicity and neatness. Mr. Pelham's System of Notation contains, in our opinion, the most complete and accurate analysis, which has yet appeared, of all the sounds in the English language. We are especially pleased to find, that the letters now in use can express, with so little alteration, all the sounds of the English tongue; that the vowel sounds may also be noted, so as to shew by the marks their mutual dependence. Indeed we venture to say the vowel sounds have never before been analyzed with so much accuracy. We do not indulge the foolish hope, that the English language will ever be printed in this way; for, as orthoepists and philosophers never made a language, so they will never regenerate one. Mr. Pelham may expect considerable encouragement from foreigners. Of this we are sure, that a book in French, printed in this way, would be sought for with avidity by any man, who was studying that language. Those of us, who have any doubt of the accuracy of our English pronunciation, will rather seek information by looking in a pronouncing dictionary; but this by no means diminishes the merit of this work, which, to a foreigner, must be far more valuable, than any pronouncing dictionary of the English language, with which we are acquainted. The account, given in this number, of the previous attempts of this kind, by many celebrated men, we think will be interesting, even to those, who are not disposed to examine and understand the present system. If they should, however, they will not fail to discern its superiority to any one that has preceded it. The next time we read Rasselas, we shall certainly read it in Mr. Pelham's edition. Ed.]

IT has frequently been repeated, and is now universally acknowledged, that the imperfection of our alphabet is the chief obstacle to a perfect understanding of English pronunciation. As language consists of sounds, and sounds are represented by written characters, it seems essential, that each letter should regularly denote a single, invariable sound, and readily combine with the others, to produce the infinite variety of compound sounds. If the Roman alphabet was adapted to the sounds of the Roman language, it by no means follows, that the same alphabet must be sufficient to express the words of other languages. When the Roman alphabet, therefore, was introduced into Britain, such changes should have been made in it, as were suitable to the genius of the new language, it was to represent. Whatever may have been the cause or manner of its introduction, the Roman alphabet was received without improvement, and has, in its present imperfect state, become the established medium of communicating the sounds of the English language. That it can be only partially applied to this purpose is sufficiently apparent in the practice of our most eminent orthoepists, who find themselves compelled to change the orthography of English words, in order to convey an idea of their pronunciation.

To supply the defect of uniformity in the powers of the alphabetical characters, various other expedients have been suggested, all, however, requiring a detail of general rules, with numerous exceptions; so that the student soon becomes involved in a labyrinth of perplexities, and abandons the study in disgust. The next resource was found in expunging all letters not essential to the sounds of the words, and thus presenting the pronunciation in a false orthography. But this remedy may be said to be worse than the disease, for, though an attentive study of the principles of the language is the most fatiguing means of acquiring a knowledge of its pronunciation, it is also the most effectual: whereas, when a person has been taught by false spelling, he has to *unlearn* this, before he can venture to write a word from memory. As a surer means of instruction, the varying sounds of the vowels have been sometimes noted by characters placed above them, but the characters used for this purpose have generally been numeral figures, and even these have become almost as unintelligible as the vowels themselves, by the same figures being applied to vowels having different sounds. The division of words into the syllables of which they are formed, is a rational and useful mode of instruction, but this implies that the letters have a uniform sound, which is certainly not the case in the Roman alphabet, as applied to the English language. For instance, the letter *c* has four distinct sounds in *can*, *cell*, *special*, and *suffice*, while its figure remains the same. A like irregularity exists in the letter *s* in *sign*, *resign*, *vision*, and *version*. The letter *g* in *gill*, (of a fish) has a sound totally different from that of the same letter in *gill*, (a measure) though the words are exactly the same in appearance. These remarks might be extended to *ch*, in *chaise* and *chain*; to *x*, in *wax* and *exert*; to *t*, in *late* and *satiate*, &c. It is true, that the Italick character is often employed to distinguish the different sounds of some of the consonants. But it is equally true, that its alternation with the Roman letter is insufficient to mark more than two sounds.

Though the want of regularity in the sounds of the consonants is thus perplexing, the difficulties increase when we approach the vowels. The intermixture of their sounds, resulting from the varying powers of each letter, is a perfect chaos, that can be reduced to order by no other means, than a patient, and diligent study of the principles of combination. Few, however, will undertake this, and fewer still will persevere till they have accomplished the Herculean task. In the words *wall*, *lard*, *mare*, and *mane*, the vowel *a* has four long sounds, essentially distinct from each other, and their correspondent short tones are found in *wallet*, *cellar*, *marry*, and *many*. Thus it appears that a single character is the representative of no less than eight sounds, including the short with the long ones. The letter *o* likewise represents four long sounds in *born*, *worm*, *pole*, *move*, and four correspondent short tones in *bonnet*, *won*, *whole*, and *wolf*, besides a dipthongal sound in *one*, and the vowel sound of *i* in *women*. But it is not in the combination of consonants with the single vowels, that the student of English finds the greatest difficulty. The diphthongs, or double vowels, present impediments at every step. The combination *ea* has five different sounds in *bear*, *fear*, *great*, *bread*, *beat*. In the words *vein*, *seize*, *heir*, *heifer*, *sleight*, the combination *ei* has

likewise five sounds. Each of the vowels and each diphthong represents several distinct sounds, a knowledge of which can be acquired by incessant practice only. It is true, that the difference is sometimes no more than a variation of quantity, without any change in the quality of sound; but the student is not the less embarrassed in making the proper distinction.

This inconsistency between the orthography and pronunciation of the English language has given rise to many expedients intended to remedy the evil.

"There have been many schemes offered," says Dr. Johnson, "for the emendation and settlement of our orthography, which, like that of other nations, being formed by chance, or according to the fancy of the earliest writers in rude ages, was at first very various and uncertain, and is yet sufficiently irregular. Of these reformers some have endeavoured to accommodate orthography to the pronunciation, without considering that this is to measure by a shadow, to take that for a model, or standard, which is changing while they apply it. Others, less absurdly indeed, but with equal unlikelihood of success have endeavoured to proportion the number of letters to that of sounds; that every sound may have its own character, and every character a single sound. Such would be the orthography of a new language to be formed by a synod of grammarians upon principles of science. But who can hope to prevail on nations to change their practice, and make all their old books useless? Or, what advantage would a new orthography procure, equivalent to the confusion and perplexity of such an alteration?

"One of the first who proposed a scheme of regular orthography was Sir Thomas Smith, Secretary of State to Queen Elizabeth; a man of real learning, and much practised in grammatical disquisitions.

"After him, another mode of writing was offered by Dr. Gill, the celebrated master of St. Paul's School, London.

"Dr. Gill was followed by Charles Butler, a man who did not want an understanding which might have qualified him for better employment."

The three plans here alluded to by Dr. Johnson were only so many variations of the general principle of representing the sounds of the language by false spelling, with the additional inconvenience of changing the powers of some of the established characters, discarding redundant letters, and introducing new ones.

"In the time of Charles I." the Doctor continues, "there was a very prevalent inclination to change the orthography; as appears, among other books, in such editions of the works of Milton as were published by himself. Of these reformers every man had his own scheme; but they agreed in one general design of accommodating the letters to the pronunciation, by *ejecting* such as they thought superfluous."

In the year 1773, Dr. Kenrick published his Dictionary of the English Language, with the professed design of ascertaining the pronunciation, without recourse to false spelling. His method was to mark the vowel and diphthongal sounds, in regular succession, from No. 1 to No. 16, affixing to each sound its appropriate num-

ber, without regard to the vowels by which it was represented. According to his plan, " each radical word and principal derivative is first printed with its respective accent or accents placed over the proper syllables ; and then reprinted in separate syllables, with figures placed over each syllable to determine the exact *quality* of sound to be given it. Added to this, the consonants are printed in Roman or Italick characters, as they take their hard or soft sound, are audible or mute." [See his Introduction, page iv.] The cypher 0 is placed over the particle *a* and the letter *e* in certain situations, to denote the indistinct sound of those letters in such cases, and the Italick character is the only discrimination made in the sounds of the variable consonants.

Whatever imperfections may be found in Dr. Kenrick's scheme of notation, it certainly possesses this advantage, that the student is never misled by a false orthography ; and it is not easy to discover why his Dictionary has been so generally overlooked, unless it be, that the duplicate numerals become confused in applying them to the single and double vowels. The use of numerals is indeed objectionable on another account, as they require a compound operation of the mind, first, to banish the idea of number, and then, to associate the figure with the sound it expresses.

Mr. Sheridan, after having maturely studied the subject, proposed to facilitate and adjust the pronunciation, by detailing the general rules on which it is founded. But as the number of exceptions greatly exceeds the number of the rules, the student is necessarily compelled to load his memory not only with a few examples of each, but with every word to which they apply. Sensible of the inefficacy of this means for any practical purpose, Mr. Sheridan proceeded to place the same series of numeral figures over each vowel, according to its variation of sound. Hence the same figure occurs over different vowels having different sounds, and thus defeats the very object for which it was designed. His chief reliance appears to have been on spelling the words as they are pronounced. This, however, was the worst part of his plan, for the inevitable consequence must be to embarrass the student between the true and the false spelling, when repeating the words from memory.

It is surprising, that Mr. Sheridan's train of thinking did not lead him to the invention of a system of uniform marks, when we read in the fifth section of his Prosodial Grammar, the following observations on the " Use and abuse of letters in spelling or representing words."

" When written words are considered as the types of sounds, in order to make them correspond to their archetypes, the four following rules should be strictly observed.

" 1. No character should be set down in any word which is not pronounced.

" 2. Every distinct simple sound should have a distinct character to mark it, for which it should uniformly stand.

" 3. The same character should never be set down as the representative of two different sounds.

" 4. All compound sounds should be marked only by such characters as will naturally and necessarily produce those sounds, upon their being pronounced according to their names in the alphabet."

From these remarks it is evident, that Mr. Sheridan was aware of the insufficiency of the means he had provided to counteract the "amazing confusion" arising from the imperfect state of the alphabet. Under this impression, he ought to have abstained from the publication of his sentiments, till he had something better to offer than the mere substitution of one difficulty for another.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

FOR THE ANTHOLOGY.

REMARKER, No. 40.

"Homo sum, humani nihil a me alienum puto."
TERENCE.

THE present age is peculiarly distinguished by liberality of sentiment and benevolence of action. Bigoted veneration for opinions, sanctioned only by antiquity, has been thrown off; the mind of man has been carefully analyzed, and pure, unbounded benevolence is now taught by philosophy as well as religion. Sectaries have, in a great measure, lost their animosity towards each other, notwithstanding some late attempts to revive it; and party spirit can no longer destroy the ties of nature or of society. Benevolence is not now confined to feeding and clothing the wretched vagrant, but provides every comfort for the distressed, and passes not unregarded the suffering victim of vice. Still the nature of benevolence is not fully understood. We forget, that almsgiving forms but an inferiour, though necessary trait in her character. Many suffer want, because they are too proud to beg, and would ungraciously receive a proffered benefit, which they would consider only as an equitable tax upon affluence. Some are in want of friends to bring their talents into notice, and others require assistance to relieve themselves from misfortune. Persons of their own rank are unable to afford them relief. They cannot apply as equals to those above them in society, for there is no sympathy between them; and the pride of independence would prevent their acknowledging them as superiours.

This pride of independence is the cause of the want of gratitude so much complained of in our country. But it is the heart's blood of our present form of government. It is sucked in with the mother's milk, and is the vital principle which animates the whole frame. The child bears with uneasiness the yoke of parental authority, and looks forward with impatience to the period of his freedom, when he shall be released from subjection. Every institution of our country breathes not only equal protection, but perfect, unlimited equality. The meanest citizen in the community is continually called upon to judge of affairs of state, to pass a judgment upon the conduct of the officers of government, and continue them in their employments, or place others more capable in their room.

He feels incompetent to the task, but demagogues are never wanting to induce him to act as they wish, by convincing him that he is as able to judge, as his better informed fellow citizen ; and the attempts, that may have been made, to enlighten his mind, are attributed to the desire of the rich to domineer over the poor. Can we be surprised, that with such an education and such habits, men should resist every thing which tended to draw a line of distinction between themselves and more opulent neighbours ? Are we to expect gratitude from persons, who are neither taught it at home, or at school ; and when principles are instilled into them, which destroy every effort of this natural feeling to expand itself into action ?

Shall then the hand of benevolence be checked ? Shall we refuse to do good, unless the object of our bounty conforms to our own particular ideas of right ? Benevolence is no where drawn in the character of a judge, but with the attributes of mercy and charity, whose hand is ever ready to assist the distressed, the undeserving as well as the deserving ; and where the want of her assistance is the only plea, that is necessary to obtain it. How are the thoughtless votaries of vice, or the suffering children of idleness, to be reclaimed, if benevolence should say, that they were receiving the just reward of their folly ; and therefore afford merely the passing tribute of relief, without endeavouring to reform the character. As the poorer classes of the community in this country, except when overpowered by continued sickness or unusual misfortune, may command the comforts as well as necessaries of life ; there is not the same scope for benevolent exertion here, as where the industrious hand of labour can with difficulty support itself. But our duties are not the less important. The young labourer engages with ardour in the pursuits to which he is destined ; and, confident of success, hastily involves himself with the cares of a family. Unforeseen accidents darken his prospects, and he soon, perhaps, finds himself embarrassed with difficulties, from which he is unable to relieve himself. He resembles the insect, caught in the spider's toils by his own giddy imprudence, whose efforts to extricate itself only exhaust its strength. At length, yielding to despair, he seeks oblivion to his cares, and strives to forget, in the inebriating draught, the misery which he can no longer support. If some benevolent being could have listened to the tale of his distress, and, throwing aside every appearance of superiority, have become his friend and adviser, the impending ruin might have been warded off. Perhaps he may yet be saved ; and how delightful the employment, to restore a human being to himself, and their only support to a wretched family ! If he could be made clearly to see the way, in which his affairs might be retrieved, hope would be relumined in his bosom ; he would acquire fortitude to dash the poisoned chalice from his lips, and to abstain from superfluities, which, although easily obtained, yet draw after them a load of debt, that would render abortive all his efforts ; and he would soon find, that perseverance and economy were sufficient to overcome every difficulty.

In the numerous families of labouring industry many arts might be taught, which, by giving employment to the rising offspring, would save them from the destructive effects of idleness, and add to the

comforts of the family. Few persons are aware of the extreme helplessness of the poorer classes. In the country, there are families ignorant even of the use of the spinning wheel ; and even where there is more reflection, a benevolent man might employ himself in doing the greatest good, by spreading the knowledge of the improvements that are constantly made in agriculture, and the arts of life. He might go still farther. He might introduce to their minds the knowledge of some of the sublime truths of natural religion, and prepare them for the reception of the elevating promises of christianity ; and thus save them from the errours of that numerous class of fanaticks, that, separating religion from morality, show their respect for the former, by violating every principle of the latter ; or, from that frequent indifference, which makes numbers forget that there is a God, who governs the world, and while they smile at the zeal of their neighbours, do not remember that religion is any concern of theirs.

People are not to be made better, or to have their minds enlightened by cold lectures upon morality, or even by the distribution of good books. Observe how political demagogues make their converts. "Fas est ab hoste doceri." It is not by telling the persons they address, how to think or how to act ; but by placing themselves upon a level with them, by entering into their feelings, and by making the opinions they wish them to adopt, seem their own ; thus dishonesty and cunning are able to rule the multitude, and raise themselves to power and distinction. Shall then the disseminators of discord alone be able to obtain their end ; and shall benevolence sit idle, and acknowledge her impotence ? If we did but consider, how large a portion of the community have neither leisure nor ability to inform themselves of subjects, which concern either their present or future welfare ; that, confined to their daily occupations, they seldom stretch their thoughts beyond them ; no benevolent mind would refuse its aid to bring into use those faculties which have been bestowed upon them. By friendly advice and instruction, adapted to their capacities, their sphere of action might be enlarged, and themselves not only made better, but enabled in their turn, to do good to their fellow creatures. With such a motive, who would not exert himself to the utmost, and however distant, strive to imitate infinite perfection, by extending to his fellow creatures the blessings that have been conferred on himself ?

POETRY.

FUNUS PASSERIS CATULLI.

[Venustulum hoc poema amici ubicunque Musarum gratum semper habuerunt. Politianus tamen, qui, prima juventute, plurimum temporis studiique occupavit ad Catullum emendandum et corrigendum, ratus est, sensum minime decorum sub verbis illis dulcissimis latuisse. Versiculi hi Martialis opinionem induxisse videntur ;

Da mihi basea, sed Catulliana,
Quae si tot fuerint, quot ille dixit,
Donabo tibi passerem Catulli.

Quanquam grates infinitae Politiano habendae sunt pro meritis insignibus tum in Catullo, quam aliis auctoribus antiquis restaurandis, minime placet haec sententia. Illo tempore viri doctissimi nulli comprobaverunt ; et hodie lector modestissimus vix, credo, erubesceret legendo.

Studiosi poetae hujus flosculum hunc delicatum aliis sub solibus cultum florentemque laeti videbunt. Versionem Etruscam et Hispaniensen novamque Anglicanam adjungimus.]

Lugete, O Veneres, Cupidinesque,
Et quantum est hominum venustiorum,
Passer mortuus est meae puellae,
Passer deliciae meae puellae ;
Quem plus illa oculis suis amabat.
Nam mellitus erat, suamque norat
Ipsam tam bene, quam puella, matrem ;
Nec sese a gremio illius movebat,
Sed circumsiliens modo huc, modo illuc,
Ad solam dominam usque pipiabat.
Qui nunc it per iter tenebricosum
Illuc, unde negant redire quenquam.
At vobis male sit, malae tenebrae
Orci, omnia bella quae devoratis ;
Tam bellum mihi passerem abstulistis,
O factum male, O miselle passer !
Tua nunc opera meae puellae
Flendo turgiduli rubent ocelli.

TRADUZIONE ITALIANA DI FR. GARISTIO.

Piangete, O grazie, Amor piangete,
E i bei di lagrime occhj spargete,
E quanto trovasi di vago, tutto
Pianga, ed ammantisi di duolo e lutto.
E morto il passero della mia bella
Amorosissima gentil donzella,
Che qual delizia, qual pregio raro
De suoi tenealo lumi piu caro ;
L' amabil passero, che la diletta
Sua vezzosissima Padrona eletta.
Sapea conoscere si ben, che ad essa
Non e si cognita sua madre istessa.
Morto e il bel passero vago ed ameno
Che non togleiasi mai dal suo seno,
Ma saltellavale mai sempre intorno
Con dolce pigoli la notte e il giorno,
E un si bel passero or va pel nero
Donde non tornasi, tristo sentiero ;
Ah vi si accrescano mai sempre i mali
Tenebrosissime ombre infernali,
Che inesorabili ed indiscrete
Si vago Passero tolto n' avete.
O ria disgrazia, empio destino,
O deplorabile Passer meschino !
Sol per tua causa or della bella
Amorosissima gentil donzella
Rossi divengono, e tumidetti
Dal lungo piangere i vaghi ochietti

TRADUCCION ESPAÑOLA DE CADALSO.

De mi querida Lesbia
Ha muerto el pajarito ;
El, que era de mi dueño
La delicia y cariño,
A quien ella queria
Mas que à sus ojos mesino.
Llorenle las belleras,
Llorenle las cupidos,
Llorenle quantos hombres
Primorosos ha habido :
Porque era tan gracioso,
Y con tan bello instinto
Conocia a su dueño,
Como a su madre el niño.
Ya se estaba en su seño,
Ya daba un vuelecito
Al uno y otro lado,
Volviendo al puesto mismo ;
Su lealtad y gozo.
Mostrando con su pico.
Ahora va el çuitado
Por el triste camino
Por donde nadie vuelve
Despues de haber partido.
O ! mal haya, mal haya
Vuestro rigor impio,
Tiniebias destructoras,
Crueldad del abismo !
Que destruyendo al mundo,
Tambien habeis sabido
Arrebatar de Lesbia
El pajaro querido.
O malvados rigores !
O triste pajarillo !
Que causan a mi Lesbia
Duro llanto continuo,
Quitando à sus ojuelos
Aquel hermoso brillo.

TRANSLATION.

Lament ye loves, ye graces mourn,
And flow, ye tears, from beauty's eyes ;
Lo, from my fair one's bosom torn,
More lov'd than light, a sparrow dies.

Sweet was the bird, and well he knew
Her fostering hand with filial care ;
Nor from her beauteous breast withdrew,
But dwelt, and leapt, and warbled there.

Now to the shade's remotest gloom
He treads a dire and darksome way ;
Curse on those shades, that blast our bloom,
And tear life's fairest gifts away.

O fatal chance, O hapless bird !
For thee what cares and griefs arise !
For thee my Lesbia's sighs are heard,
And tears suffuse her beauteous eyes.

NOTICE OF TIMOTHY TANKARD, THE SCIENTIFICK DRINKER.

JOLLY Tim was a man of a thousand,
For mirth he was no one's debtor,
His can and his bowl
He lov'd like his soul,
And he loved his muse still better.

He held that science and wine,
Each served to assist the other;
One bumper he'd fill,
For Helicon rill,
For the top of Parnassus another.

'Twould have fatted a Christian's bowels,
To have seen him tip his can, sir;
How his wits were new rigged,
With each bumper he twigged,
How he'd write, when he could not stand, sir.

Jolly Tim had a coat of arms,
For his ancestors' sake he bore 'em;
A huge nose, gules,
In the mud like a fool's,
With this motto, "securus amo-*rum*."

Of his ancestors much he vaunted,
For several generations,
And often he swore
That they prided him more,
Than had they been kings of nations.

For his father was president
Of a club of topers so tight,
That used to meet
In the very same street
Where his grandfather froze, one night.

Jolly Tim was obliging and kind,
And politeness was all his *foible*,
For he ne'er had a guest,
But he did his best,
To drink him under the table.

The pimples upon his face
So thickly held their stations,
That he parcel'd them out,
On his chin and his snout,
Into clusters and constellations.

'Twas wonderful to behold,
When to *slug* he took a notion,
How the bear and the dog,
And the bull, snake and hog,
Would glow with the brisk emotion.

And when his noddle went round,
And stars appeared in confusion,
He'd take to the ground,
In a study profound,
And measure their revolution.

His temper was humble and meek,
He ap'd not the proud and the scorner;
And he often was found
As *low* as the ground,
In the street, and the *poet's corner*.

B.

THE BOSTON REVIEW.

FOR

JANUARY, 1809.

Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotavi, quae commutanda, quae eximenda, arbitrarer. Nam ego dicere verum assuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.

ART. 1.

THE NEW CYCLOPAEDIA, &c. by Abraham Rees and others. First American edition, revised, corrected, enlarged and adapted to this country, by several literary and scientifick characters. Vol. II. part 1. Philadelphia, Samuel F. Bradford, 4to.

THE farther we advance in our examination of the *American* edition of this work, the more we regret the manner in which it has been conducted. After the fair promises of the "literary and scientifick characters" who superintend it; what a disappointment must it be to the purchaser, what a mortification to the friend of American science and literature, to find so few real improvements made upon the *English* work. How has this happened? Is it because the *original* is so perfect that it leaves no room for amendment? If we are to judge from the complaints and railing of the American editors, nay, if we may rely upon the judgment of some impartial persons, this cannot be the case. Must it not then proceed from one of the causes we have mentioned on former occasions; either the incompetency of these gentlemen to their undertaking, or an attempt to impose upon the American publick! Let the facts we exhibit give the answer.

In our last review of the Cyclopaedia, we examined with care, and we trust with all due candour, the important article ANGEL, contained in the present half volume. We shall now proceed with the remaining articles, of which AMERICA is by far the most important, and will undoubtedly be the most interesting to our readers. But before we examine this, we shall dispose of a few smaller articles which precede it.

The first that we remark upon is a geographical article consisting of five words, viz. "AMACCURA, a town of Africa." We have taken notice of this *original* article (though we generally mean to confine our attention to the labours of the *American* editors) because we think articles of this sort do not add much to our stock of know-

ledge, and because we think that our editors might find abundant room for improving the work in such instances. And we may remark, that there are not a few articles as unsatisfactory as this, and which relate to subjects much more interesting than this "town of Africa."

AMACK, *in geography*, an island of Denmark, has an addition of four or five lines to describe the hats, jackets, breeches and petticoats of the inhabitants, whose dress and mode of living Dr. Rees had spoken of in general terms, as being "peculiar." If it was worth while to be so minute in respect to these islanders, the American editors would have done well to describe their mode of *living*, as well as their *dress*.

AMASIA, in ancient geography, has an addition of five and twenty lines.

AMBER, an interesting, though concise article in the original work, has a column of additional matter, for which the editors (as we wish they always would do, till they give their names to the publick) cite their authority.

AMBROSE ST. This article has a number of childish insertions of short phrases, and even single words, which are very much in the strain of that overweening zeal for the supposed interests of religion, which has been displayed in former parts of the work. We will give one or two examples. The English editors, after observing that "*pious frauds* and *pretended* miracles served also to augment the esteem and veneration with which he was regarded by the credulous multitude," proceed to details, in the midst of which the American editors make insertions in brackets, as follows :

"These holy relicks were presented with solemn pomp to the admiration of the people ; and many miracles were [*said to be*] wrought on possessed and diseased persons who touched them, and [*it was affirmed that*] one recovered his sight by touching the bier on which the bodies were deposited, with his handkerchief."

Again,

"Many fabulous particulars are related concerning Ambrose, which are not worth minutely recording, and which the allowable scepticism [*if scepticism be ever allowable*] of the present age will not admit."

We really do not perceive the necessity of spending time on amendments like these, unless the Cyclopaedia is intended for schoolboys of the lowest form. Is it possible that any reader could be misled by the expressions of the original ? But we are willing to give these amendments the praise which we cannot bestow upon all parts of the work ; we mean, the praise of doing no harm. We ought not to pass over a short paragraph at the close of this article, boldly calling in question Dr. Rees's impartiality, because, forsooth, he is an *Arian !*

We would, upon this, put a plain question to these liberal editors. Do you mean, gentlemen, to affirm, that sectarians are never impartial ? If so, will not this imputation attach to yourselves, who profess to be of a particular sect or party, as well as to this biographer, whom you choose to denominate an *Arian ?*

AMBURY, in farriery, is a new article, taken, as it appears, from the *Domestick Encyclopaedia*.

AMENDMENT, in law, has a few additional sentences, collected with a very commendable industry from Bacon's Abridgment, title *Amendment*, and the English statutes there cited.

AMERICA is the next article in order. The very mention of this name, we have no doubt, excites in our readers the most eager desire to peruse this article in the *American* Cyclopaedia. They will remember that, according to the prospectus, particular attention was to be bestowed upon all those parts of this edition which relate to *America*. They will recollect, too, the profound contempt, not unfrequently deserved, with which some of our writers are accustomed to treat every thing written by Europeans upon the subject of this country. They will naturally consider also the great advantages which the *American* have over the *English* editors, by being, in a manner, *upon the spot*, where any fact can be readily ascertained, any question immediately answered, without traversing the Atlantick ocean. They would also reflect, or would have a right to presume, that *America* is the native soil of these gentlemen; that the history of their particular portion of the country, the *United States*, occupies a considerable part of that of the whole continent; and, therefore, that the editors have, in addition to every other motive, the stimulus of patriotism to urge them to spare no exertion in this part of their work. They might also naturally suppose, that the eyes of the literati of Europe (and Dr. Rees, we have no doubt, would see it with as much satisfaction as any man) are fixed upon this part of the American work, anticipating the most complete account of this continent, which has ever been published. For these and other reasons, which we could mention, the readers of the Cyclopaedia will expect every thing that can be desired upon this interesting subject. We shall now see how these expectations will be answered.

In managing this article, the American editors have adopted a method a little different from that which they have followed in most other parts of the work. They have not mutilated and altered at pleasure, as in the first number, nor have they confined themselves to *correcting* the errours of the original; but with a laudable ambition have, in addition to their usual corrections, given an entire *new article* upon *America*. We highly commend this patriotick spirit, and, wherever we can, we shall as highly commend their work. In our remarks we shall first consider the *original* article with the American corrections, and then examine the merits of the *new* article.

The original article, which has some formality, though not much method, is so unsatisfactory, that it has been censured by Dr. Rees's own countrymen.* But among the various criticks who have expressed dissatisfaction at the article, we do not recollect any who have had so little charity as to impute its imperfections to a studied design of the compilers to degrade America. This imputation was reserved for *our liberal minded editors*. Near the close of the original article, after copious strictures upon it, they say:

* See British Critick, vol. 27.

"We regret exceedingly that the foregoing particulars contained under this interesting head should have required so much of our animadversion. Living, however, in that country, and familiar with many of the subjects which this article *affects* to describe, it was our duty, and we have accordingly endeavoured to expose some of those ancient absurdities which have so long circulated in Europe to the *intended degradation* of America; particularly as these accounts are again brought forward to the world in a work of this kind, where the influence of *prejudice* and *credulity* should be utterly unknown."

We also "regret exceedingly" that these gentlemen should have had occasion for so much animadversion, and we no less regret that they should feel themselves justified in closing their animadversions with an unqualified opinion, that these "ancient absurdities have been long circulated in Europe to the *intended* degradation of America." And it is most remarkably unfortunate, that *they* should insinuate that *Dr. Rees* and his associates have admitted any thing into their work under the influence of *prejudice* and *credulity*. Are these gentlemen ready to admit, that Buffon and the rest of the French philosophers, who gave the greatest currency to these preposterous opinions, did it with the intention of *degrading us*? Does Mr. Jefferson, who made a reply to Buffon, once insinuate such an intention on the part of his adversary? Yet Dr. Rees has done no more than to copy their sentiments upon this subject. We do not like to see such a readiness to impute bad motives; we think, as we intimated under the article *Angel* that it is not very politick, and we also think that Dr. Rees and his friends have a right to demand the proofs of it. For our part, we have seen no more evidence of wicked intentions, and prejudice, and credulity in them, than we think they will discover in the labours of these American literati. And upon what foundation does this unworthy imputation rest? Upon this; that the English editors have inserted into their work an article containing mistakes and false theories respecting America, which have been circulating for many years not only in *European* but *American* publications, and some of the most absurd of which errours in the opinion of the American editors are still admitted into the school books of our children!

If this is to be the evidence of wicked motives, of prejudice and credulity, then woe be to these charitable editors, when the Patagonians, the Mexicans, the Peruvians, the Osages, the Mandarines, the Esquimaux, and the rest of the original inhabitants of this continent, from the Atlantick to the Pacifick ocean, shall be made acquainted with the errours and chimerical hypotheses detailed by these gentlemen, in relation to their several countries.

These gentlemen, among other extraordinary things, sneer at the story of the Canada earthquake, of 1663, which is said to have overturned *a chain of free stone mountains*, not *a* free stone mountain, as they state it, upwards of three hundred miles in length. This account is, we confess, extraordinary; but extraordinary as it may appear, it is supported by authorities which these gentlemen will not lightly reject, and on which, as *American* authorities, Dr. Rees would have a right to place entire reliance. Dr. Morse, in the very last edition of his Geography, printed in 1805, a book which is used

in all our schools, inserts the story without comment ; and, farther, cites the authority of a late professor of our university, for an account of this and other earthquakes in North America. Indeed, Dr. Rees has evidently copied and abridged that part of Dr. Morse's Geography which comprehends this extraordinary narrative ! Surely then, Dr. Rees is not to be censured for permitting things of this nature to find their way into the Cyclopaedia. If our own geographers and professors countenance and adopt such relations, why should *foreign* writers be charged with partiality for following their example ? And this story is not, after all, more extraordinary on the face of it, than some which other American writers have published respecting this country, or some, which these very editors have admitted into this very article. Take the following examples.

Dr. Mease who has appeared frequently in publick as an author, in his " Geological account of the United States," published in 1807, in which we are told, that *the most scrupulous attention has been exercised in ascertaining the accuracy* of his facts and statements, relates a number of extraordinary stories, and among them the following, respecting the narrows of Connecticut river, which he inserts without comment.

" Two hundred miles from the sound is a narrow of five yards only, formed by two shelving mountains of solid rock, whose tops intercept the clouds. Through this chasm are compelled to pass all the waters which, in the time of the floods, bury the northern country. At the upper cohos, the river then spreads 24 miles wide ; and for five or six weeks, ships of war might sail over lands that afterwards produce the greatest crops of hay and grain in all America. People who can bear the sight, the groans, the tremblings and surly motion of water, trees and ice, through this awful passage, view with astonishment one of the greatest phenomena in nature. Here water is consolidated without frost, by pressure, by swiftness, between the pinching sturdy rocks, to such a degree of induration, *that no iron crow can be forced into it.* Here *iron, lead, and cork, have one common weight ;* here steady as time, and harder than marble, the stream passes irresistible, if not swift as lightning, the electrick fire rends trees in pieces with no greater ease than does this mighty water." ! ! !

These editors can also publish extraordinary stories, as well as Dr. Mease. They have not indeed, so far as we recollect, told us of the famous Salt Mountain of 180 miles in length, and of which a specimen was actually said to have been sent to Mr. Jefferson, and to the museum of our own university, nor of the *salt plain*, which appeared after the salt mountain had melted away. But, not to mention the discovery of *unicorns* with *curling horns* like the fossil, *cornu Ammonis*, which they state on the authority of a Canadian, they tell us, when speaking of Louisiana that " it is said, that the buffalo and bear, particularly, are in droves of many thousands, and continue passing without interruption for weeks together ; so that the whole surface, of the country is for *many miles in breadth trodden like a large road !*" And in another place they say ; " in some places *whole hills*, through the multitudes of deer, buffalo, &c. that have resorted to them from *time immemorial have been eaten down to a plain !*"

Now these stories are not less extraordinary than that of the Canada earthquake. But we will not affirm that Dr. Mease, or these editors have circulated them from wicked motives; nor would we be thought to have introduced them here, out of disrespect to the authors who have given currency to them. But they certainly would justify Europeans in speaking with as much freedom of our countrymen, as these editors have done of Dr. Rees and his friends.

We have dwelt the longer on this subject, because we think we have observed in other parts of this edition, a sort of haughtiness over Europeans, which is unbecoming the liberality of men of real learning. We trust, that we feel as sensibly as these editors for the reputation of American science, and literature, and that we should be as ready to repel an injury, or to resent an affront offered to either, as they would. But we would also exercise towards others the same liberality that we should exact of them towards ourselves.

But it is time to inquire who are the authors of, and who are responsible for this article upon *America*. If our editors had informed their readers of this, it would have enabled them to judge better of Dr. Rees's motives for republishing it; and we had a right to expect that they would have traced it up to its original publishers, and thrown upon them as much of the responsibility as belonged to them. Why have they suppressed this information? Was it their design to depress the merits of Dr. Rees in order to exalt their own? And did they think this object would be in some measure defeated by a disclosure of the original authors of this article? If this were not the case, we confess we can perceive no other way of accounting for their conduct than by a supposition which implies a total disqualification for such an undertaking, heir ignorance. They might have informed their readers that the original publishers of this article were those famous characters, the host of literati, who furnished the materials for the French Encyclopaedia. It would seem perfectly natural to *Europeans* that Dr. Rees should resort with confidence to this work, of unequalled celebrity, for this, and many other articles of his Cyclopaedia. By thus referring to the original publishers, however, we do not mean to absolve Dr. Rees from all responsibility for this article, though we think he stands acquitted of all improper motives.

As it is not a part of our engagements to our readers to review the *original*, but merely to exhibit what the American editors have done, and what they have not done, it is unnecessary to show in what particulars Dr. Rees might have amended this article; but it is certainly proper to show how negligent our editors have been in not recurring to the original, and revising the translation made for this work. If they had employed themselves in this, instead of imputing improper motives to the English editors, they would have performed a service quite as useful to their readers, and as honourable to themselves. And we are the more surprised, that they were not led to suspect that the article was not of *English* origin, as besides the Gallicisms which abound in it, the very first paragraph contains this expression; "*Our* first meridian is the boundary of the world to the west;" language which is unintelligible in the mouth of any

people, but those, who, like the French and other *continental* nations of Europe have been accustomed to reckon from the Island of Ferro as their first meridian. We will in this place take notice of some things which we think might have been corrected by recurring to the original.

In the same paragraph, we meet with this expression:

"Such is the errour of Ptolemy, that he *shoves back* a hundred and forty eight degrees and more, the eastern mouth of the Ganges, which according to astronomical observations taken by the moderns is settled at about one hundred and eight." What are we to understand here by *shoving back* the mouth of the Ganges? The original has "car telle est l'erreur de Ptolémée qu'il *recule* jusqu'à cent quarante huit degrès et davantagel 'embouchure orientale du Gange," &c. in which the word *recule* should rather have been rendered, *extends* or *carries forward*, which is its usual signification when applied to geographical boundaries.

In col. 6th.* It would not have been amiss to have translated the words *suc de napel*, which mean, we presume, the juice of napel, or *aconitum*, with which it is observed the inhabitants of some districts of the Alps rub their knives.

In column 8th. the translation reads thus: "It *is* thought that the entire population of the new world, at the time of its discovery *might be* forty millions," it should read, "It is *not* thought that the entire population, &c. could be forty millions."

In col. 9th. instead of, "the inhabitants of *that* hemisphere," the original has, "of *our* hemisphere;" that is, the hemisphere in which the writers of this article lived, and not the American hemisphere, as the phrase now seems to imply.

In col. 12th. it is said, "though we find between the tropicks savages who are much addicted to fishing, they nevertheless plant several *feet* of manioc around their huts." The original words here are *pieds de manioc;* and it is well known, that the word *pied* signifies the plant itself.

In col. 13th. we find the word *transpiration* which is very good *French*, but ought to have been translated *perspiration*. In the same column mention is made of the savages of *Great Bretany;* the original has Grande Bretagne, which, we need not inform the reader, means Great Britain.

In col. 14th. mention is made of a substance composed of "torrefied maize," which in English would be *roasted* or *parched corn*.

In the 17th. column we have an instance of editorial inattention. The reader is referred by the American editors to "*the above* tables," i. e. Mr. Jefferson's tables of the comparative weights of animals of the two continents; but he looks in vain for the tables.

In col. 18th. we are informed that the indians "would *almost* find an opportunity [to indulge in intemperance] if they were less indolent." There is an obvious omission of the word *always* after *almost*, and there is a corresponding word for it in the French original.

* We are obliged to refer to the *column* for want of pagings, or some other convenient mode of reference; a defect which lessens the value of this work, in the long articles particularly, as a book of reference.

In col. 21st. for *encavallados* read *encavellados*, as it stands in the French, the first being formed, if there is such a word in Spanish which we doubt, from the Spanish word for a *horse* and the second from the Spanish word for *hair*. The word *blacks* in this sentence is also a false translation, there being no word for it in the original. This errour would have been put among the *errata* at the end of our review, but for the American editors' appearing to have been misled by the word *blacks;* for they have founded an argument upon it, in the next column, observing that "the reports respecting the nation of *long haired blacks* will be found, on examination, to be equally unfounded." Perhaps they would not deny the existence of a *long haired* nation of *Indians*, though there may not be such a nation of *blacks*, in that quarter.

In col. 27th. there is this curious expression: "The western Indians, have nothing of the reasonable animal except the *mask*." We were confounded by this word, till upon turning to the original we found it to be intended for a translation of the French word *masque*, a technical term in painting and sculpture, signifying, the *form* of the face; and which, however allowable in *French*, is in *English* too technical for a popular disquisition.

But we will not fatigue the reader with any more examples. Faults like these manifest a degree of negligence which was not to have been expected from men who had pledged themselves to correct this work. Surely the patrons of this edition did not anticipate such a failure in the performance of those engagements. No, they had a right to expect that the work would be faithfully executed; that the original authorities, from which it is compiled would be carefully examined, and the errours of Dr. Rees, as well as of his predecessors corrected.

In our next we shall examine the new article upon *America*.

ART. 2.

The Apostolick Origin of Episcopacy, &c. continued fr. Vol. 5. p. 668.

Dr. Bowden, in his second letter, considers, that his opponent misrepresents Hilary, and denies that the Latin word *consigno* ever signifies *ordain*. This he proves from many authorities, and censures Dr. M. for not quoting the original Latin, by which his readers would not so easily be led into an errour. The testimony of Hilary, he affirms, is direct in favour of episcopal superiority. "The Bishop, says that writer, is the chief; though every Bishop is a Presbyter, yet every Presbyter is not a Bishop.* In the Bishop all orders are contained, because he is the Prince, or the chief of the Priests." Yet this, says the doctor sarcastically, is one of the authors favourable to your cause!

Our author is equally amazed, that Chrysostom should be cited as an authority for ministerial parity, which he considers one of those many *strange things* apparent in the course of this controversy. The Bishop of Constantinople observes, [Com. Ep. Philip.] "Paul says in his Epistle to Timothy, fulfil thy ministry, being then a Bishop;

* Com. 1 Tim. 3. Com. in. Ephes. iv. 2.

for that he *was* a Bishop, in the appropriate sense, adds the Dr. appears by Paul's writing thus to him, *lay hands suddenly on no man!* This, says Dr. B. is the very act, in which the Bishops principally excel the Presbyters; by which the *former* are in a peculiar manner distinguished, which the *Father* quotes, to prove their superiority over the Presbyters. In his 13th Homily on 1 Tim. iv. 4, *with the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery*, Chrysostom has these pointed and decisive words. "Paul does not speak of Presbyters, but of Bishops. For Presbyters did not ordain Timothy a Bishop." "All the art of man," says Dr. Bowden, "cannot evade this testimony; for it implies, 1. That Bishops, as an order superiour to Presbyters, existed in the apostolick age. 2. That Timothy was one of those Bishops. 3. That Presbyters could not in that age, as well as in the age in which Chrysostom lived, ordain a Bishop.

It is surprising that Dr. Miller should quote *Theodoret*, who has always been considered by Presbyterians as a high Churchman, and the quotations from *Primarius* and *Sedulius* are nothing to the purpose, as they merely prove an original community of names between Presbyter and Bishop, to which Episcopalians readily subscribe.

The Dr. here makes many quotations from several writers of this same century, tending to prove that Episcopacy was of apostolick institution. *Isidore* says, "The Bishops succeeded the Apostles; they were constituted through the whole world in the place of the Apostles." "Aaron, the High Priest *was* what a Bishop *is*. Aaron's sons prefigured the Presbyters."

Optatus, a Numidian Bishop, says, "The Laity, the Ministers, the Deacons, the Presbyters, nay the Bishops themselves, the *princes* and *chiefs* of all, proved traitors." There are four sorts in the church; Bishops, Presbyters, Deacons, and the faithful Laity." Taylor's Epist. p. 95.

Musaeus and *Eutychianus*, who were only Presbyters, took upon them to ordain. But the council of Sardis would not admit them into the order of Clergy. They would admit none, "but such as were ordained by Bishops, who were so in truth, for they were no Bishops that imposed hands on them."* This, says the Dr. shows clearly, what the council of Sardis thought of Presbyterian ordination. It was declared by them to have no validity, because the ordainers had no authorrty to *impose hands*.

Ischiras was ordained Presbyter by *Colluthus*, who was himself no more than a Presbyter, and the former was reduced to lay communion by the synod of Alexandria, because he was not ordained by a Bishop.

The Dr. closes his remarks on the writers of the second century, and terminates his second letter in these words:

"Before I conclude, I shall just observe to you, that you have a very improper way of quoting authors. If it be a Latin or Greek author, you sometimes give us the English without the original, even when the sense of the original is very different from what you give it; as when you translate *consignant* ordain; and in a few other instances, as will be shown hereafter; and you also give us

* Can. 19. Taylor on the Epist. p. 114.

the English, without referring to that part of the work, which contains the original. This puts an opponent to a great deal of unnecessary trouble. I must, therefore, tell you plainly, Sir, that if this controversy proceed, you must give the original, unless it be a passage well known, and about which there can be no dispute; or unless the passage be very long. But in *every instance*, you must note precisely the place whence you took the quotations. I will promise you to do the same. We shall then see the words of an author with our own eyes, and proceed in a fair and scholar-like manner."

ART. 3.

An Address to the people of the United States, on the importance of encouraging agriculture and domestick manufactures; tending to shew, that by a due encouragement of these essential interests, the nation will be rendered more respectable abroad, and more prosperous at home. Together with an account of the improvements in sheep at Arlington, the native sheep of Smith's Island, and the plans proposed of extending this valuable race of animals, for the benefit of the country at large. By GEORGE W. P. CUSTIS, *Esq. of Arlington House, in the district of Columbia. Alexandria, printed by S. Snowden*, 1808. Pamphlet, pp. 43.

THIS is a production that we should probably never have seen, if it had not been for that excellent institution, the Boston Athenaeum; where, besides the number of foreign and domestick periodical publications which are collected, a variety of pamphlets and small works from all parts of the United States add to the amusement of those who visit it. We have undertaken to notice it, not from its intrinsick value, but because it is written upon a subject, about which many very false notions, and very wild reveries are circulated with all the industry of party zeal. As a mere question of political economy, whether it be wise to encourage manufactures in the United States at this period, there would be nothing obnoxious in the discussion, because, although there might be a difference of opinion, there would be no suspicion or aspersion of motives; but, blended as it has been with political events, and artfully attempted to be made subservient to the factious purposes of party, every opinion advanced upon the subject will be considered not as coming from the political economist, but from the politician. A full conviction of the evils attending the discussion of any subject, which has once been seized upon by the harpies of party, will not deter us from offering some general opinions, with the hope that they may awaken reflection in the minds of honest, thinking men, and that their efforts, by preventing exaggeration and prejudice, may tend to enlighten publick opinion.

In the origin of society, agriculture was the first object of mankind, then manufactures, and then commerce. The first procured food, the second clothing, and the last was the means of exchanging the superfluities, and supplying the wants of either of the others. The United States have formed an exception to this natural order of things. Agriculture was our first object, and commerce the next,

and by the aid of these we were gradually advancing in manufactures. In this course, the progress of a nation will be vastly more rapid; because commerce requires less capital, less labour, is more active, affords quicker and more profitable returns. The vast commercial capital now existing in the United States, has been principally acquired within the last twenty years. Increasing in a compound ratio, every year augmented its mass, and of course the disposable surplus. As we were diminishing our debt, it could not be invested in the publick funds; it could only be occupied then, in enlarging our towns, improving our roads and canals, ameliorating our farms, or invested in manufacturing establishments. "Unembarrassed by too much regulation," the most natural and beneficial consequences followed; and the superfluity of our gains, were appropriated in the order just mentioned. The effects were rapidly beginning to be perceived, and those who examined them carefully, foresaw that their progress, if uninterrupted, would be as extraordinary as the rise of our commercial greatness.

But we fear, that this fortunate state of things has received a fatal blow. Not that it will be immediately checked; the impetus once given to any system, its motion cannot be instantaneously arrested. Nay, it may produce an apparent increase, like cutting off a tree; but the growth will only prove to be suckers, that must perish, or become worse than useless. In these cases the interference of government is always mischievous; its attempt to force enterprise, if it succeeds at all, will only produce distortion. Those nations are invariably the most prosperous, where, in every thing relating to the acquisition and employment of property, the citizens are left "to manage their own affairs in their own way."

It is much to be wished that a certain class of statesmen would peruse the journals of the Massachusetts legislature, some five and twenty years since. They would find that this policy of forcing manufactures had a full trial. Land and money were voted, and individuals formed associations to be patriotick, and pay double price for their coats. Companies too were formed with considerable capitals, not quite so large, to be sure, as some which have recently originated in the city of Baltimore, and the state of Virginia; but in cases like these, the larger they are, the less chance of success, because the more room for mismanagement; what was the result? They invariably failed; and so they will do in Baltimore and Virginia. We may also refer them to something of this kind in New Jersey, about which, certain individuals in New York will be able to give them all the particulars.

Besides, this scheme of premiums is only taxing one sort of industry to encourage another. We beg pardon of our readers for the number of trite things we are obliged to say, but the nature of the subject requires them. It is essentially unjust, and we venture to assert, has never succeeded in any instance: in the few cases, and they are very few, where the desired effect has been produced, it has been done by natural causes. We are aware that it may be said, that circumstances are different, and although the establishments did not then succeed, they would now; admitting this to be true, we repeat that it will not be done by the premiums.

What is the motive of this forcing system? why are we thus exhausted under the receiver of the political air pump? Why—to compel Great Britain to accede to our terms, through want of *raw materials*, and want of sale for her manufactures; that is to say, to a diminution of demand for labour, and of consequence, an increase of her poor rates. And what is our situation while this is taking place? Living in a climate, in which we could not exist much longer without clothing, than without food; no demand for labour in agriculture, because we already raise more than we consume; commerce is annihilated, and we are to go to manufacturing broadcloths, flannels, and blankets, when the whole United States do not produce a sufficient quantity of the *raw materials*, to supply a single State!

To prosecute this system effectually, which is to result in establishing cotton and woollen manufactures, and so make us "*independent*," many existing manufactures were either diminished, or cut up by the roots; which will be seen by consulting the reports of the secretary of the treasury under the proper head: it is whimsical enough, that a very flourishing establishment for making *maccaroni*, should have been one of these. Lumber, and the preparation of fish, may be classed under this head, as they both are changed from their original state, and employ vast numbers in the operation; and these two great staples of the eastern division of the United States have been nearly exterminated. But, supposing that the fishermen and shingle-makers should turn their hands to spinning and weaving, have they no reason to fear, that by the time they become expert in their new business, some new policy may intervene, and that they will be again cut adrift, to shift for themselves? Can they confide more in the southern legislators, who voted to a man to suspend commerce, and with the utmost indifference annihilated the means of existence of so many thousands, considering it to be a local and subordinate interest? can they be more confident of their protection of manufactures, which can never be carried on in the southern states?

Manufactures generally create large cities, and accumulate great number of individuals, who obtain a bare subsistence. We have been taught to deprecate the growth of great towns, and have heard them styled with some vehemence by a great authority, "*great sores!*" But if this is the truth of commercial towns, where property is much more divided, what shall we say to the population of a manufacturing city? Would the existence of our present form of government be compatible with such a populace as exists in Lyons, Manchester, or Birmingham?

Those who are inimical to commerce can never be friendly to manufactures, for the latter can never flourish without the former. The history of every nation proves this maxim. Even Venice, Genoa, and Holland, though almost without territory, were possessed of very important manufactures, when they enjoyed an active commerce. In Great Britain, supported by liberty and security of person and property, they have progressed in concert to the most unrivaled prosperity. Look at France; money is plenty, though it does not circulate, provisions low and abundant, labour cheap, the raw

materials, silk and wool, plentifully furnished, and the government for the last twenty years have been lavishing programmes, premiums, ordonnances, arrets, decrees, &c. for their encouragement; and what is the situation of France as respects manufactures? Why, the very soldiers of Buonaparte, are at this day, more than half of them dressed in English cloths.

We shall only add a few lines more to this long preface, to say, we are well wishers to the permanent establishment of manufactures among us; and that we have no doubt they will grow up fast enough, if the former prosperity of the United States is restored, and the government will not interfere. Several minor articles which used to be imported from Europe, have been gradually produced at home, till the foreign supply has been wholly given up. The two great branches of woollen and cotton, were also beginning to appear; of the latter article particularly, many considerable establishments were in activity, in different parts of New England; and of the former, though the raw material was scarce, the progress was very perceptible; the first step was to introduce carding machines, and these, which a few years since were unknown, are now in use every where, even in remote parts of the District of Maine. The next object was to introduce the spinning jennies, and these are becoming more common every day. Many individuals had turned their attention to these branches; and with small capitals, and personal attention, were gradually maturing important establishments: and this is the only way in which they can ever be made to succeed. New England possesses every advantage for these purposes, and will no doubt, in due time, manufacture for herself and her neighbours. But, while we can buy a coat cheaper than we can make it, it is better to buy it. In a very few years we shall no doubt be able to export a principal part of the cotton we now send in a raw state in a state of twist; at least to supply those countries that are now supplied by England. If our prosperity should be restored, many years will not elapse before we shall be able to make such a quantity of woollen cloths, as not to be left naked, if we quarrel with Europe; and to do much more than this is not desirable. For dependence on others to buy is almost as bad as to depend on others to sell.

We come now to Mr. Custis's pamphlet, and we must remark in the first place, that its title is a misnomer, because almost all his observations apply only to the southern states; as a proof of which, among others, we extract the following:

"In a republick like ours, fellow citizens, formed from the history of so many ages, and a work no less remarkable for the wisdom, than the equity of its structure, we must only expect to preserve the purity of its spirit and laws, by cherishing those institutes, which cause its stability and promote its welfare. The education of youth should become one of the most distinguished features in a republican system of government. Look around you, people of America, and behold the state of your growing population. Do you see the youth trained up in the ways of virtue, morality and religion. Do you see them thus formed for patriots, for statesmen, and for soldiers; their country's best support, and proudest boast. Or do you

see them brought up in idleness and vice, lost to a due sense of their own utility and importance, and lost to the service of the state. What a disgrace to the age! what a reflection for posterity! A republick which should live, but by the virtue and valour of its citizens; and which, in these degenerate days, should set a proper example to the world, is wanting in those institutes so necessary to produce these desirable ends.

"By recurring to the history of the most distinguished ages of the ancient republicks, we find that schools for the instruction of youth, were among the first of their establishments, and considered as essential to the service of the state. Here the children were taught the lessons of virtue, and trained up to be useful members of the commonwealth. Here were those duties inculcated which formed the citizen and adorned the man; and the hero of those ages would rather suffer death than confess dishonour."

A country gentleman should seldom write, and never without the advice of his friends, because he is very apt to carry a little of the importance of the 'squire of the village in his manner, which is lost in the crowds of the world; and because he is apt to feel a warmth and zeal on a comparatively trifling subject, which is often attended with ridicule. We trust Mr. Custis is a better farmer than writer, but we hasten to introduce the author's manner and opinions to our readers, and therefore present him with two or three sentences from among many others of the same cast.

"Again, we now occupy the very humble rank in the commercial world, of being the carriers for others, and thereby deriving emolument from their exertions; but how much more characteristick would it be, of a great people like ourselves, rather to bear to distant quarters of the globe, the produce and ingenuity of our own workshops, than to wait at the doors of our neighbours, to receive their burdens for hire."

"Is it not a reflection that even the *flag of our country*, is made of foreign manufacture, and our legislators and patriots, while delivering the most dignified and national sentiments, are clothed in the produce of a foreign land? It is, we shall ever bear a secondary grade, in the rank of nations, if we are not independent of all."

"Again, the frontier settler hardly knows any thing of the general government, but its name; too remote in its sphere to feel its influence, and too proud to invite its care. Were these people informed, 'This blanket is the work of your fellow citizens, under the patronage of your rulers, and is sent you as a proof of their relationship and protecting care.' Instead of being told 'This very valuable and important article is the work of foreign hands, purchased at the price of our labours, and by others permitted for our use."

Remarking by the way, that the two words "*again*" and "*alike*" Mr. C. takes the most inexcusable liberties with; we shall only say that the two first sentences give us just that kind of qualmish disagreeable feeling, that the word *citizen* does, prefixed to the name of a Frenchman, and which we are condemned to meet with now and then in the books printed during the revolution. As to the blankets.

we believe the only question the frontier settler would ask about them, would be, "which is the cheapest?"

We do not know Mr. Custis as a politician; we know however, that he was brought up under the care of General Washington, and we presume, of course, that he can have nothing in common with the present rulers. When we see, then, from an independent retired man such gross ignorance, or such wanton neglect of the essential interests, as well as most intimate feelings of a large part of the union, as is shewn in the following passage; and that this neither arises from the depravation or passion of party; we look with great solicitude to the duration of a compact, that whether from sentiment or reason, we have always contemplated with veneration.

"In a word, let government protect and cherish the infant agricultural establishments for the benefit of our country, and hold up the meed of honour to him who shall worthily serve her cause; the citizen will do the rest. The introduction of canals, of roads, and bridges, and all means which shall facilitate the communication of the various parts of our country, would result in vast benefit to the state, and nobly aid the cause of domestick economy. If we are to be denied the ocean, the great thoroughfare assigned by Providence for the use of mankind, and on which the little bark of the poor Indian has the same right to navigate, as the magnificent vessel of the prince. I say if this right, derived from a source, whose authority no laws ought to change, nor any civilized being question. If our intercourse cannot be defended by a like violence, and protected by means alike those of our aggressors, we must abandon the ocean, and within ourselves, form a great mart, for all the world to visit. China affords an instance which is precisely similar to this, but China affords no annals like ours; no epoch in her history can sound like '76; a great people struggling for their liberties, and nobly daring to proclaim their freedom. May the ocean never be abandoned, may the sovereign of the seas dread the prediction to Macbeth, and fear that "Birnam wood shall come to Dunsinane," and may our forests descend to guard the soil which gave them birth, and protect the people who cherished their growth, and, as an humble individual, I pray God that American Oak, and Iron, may bear the flag of our country in virtuous pride, to all quarters of the globe."

We should have certainly thought there had been some mistake of the press, in the following sentence, if the others before and after it, were not connected with it in reasoning. "It will certainly be advisable in the commencement of manufactures to lessen the labour of machinery, and increase the demand for workmen, since this will give the citizens a confidence in the utility of these establishments, and an opportunity of comparing the respective merits of labour and machinery." Now certainly it is owing to machinery, that we have any chance of succeeding in competition with Europe; as to employment for workmen, weaving must be done by hand, and will always furnish enough.

One principal object of Mr. Custis is to bring forward his sheep, which he calls the Arlington breed. They are formed from a cross between a Persian ram, and a breed of sheep from Smith's Island,

at the mouth of the Chesapeake. Probably they are a very good breed. The quality of their wool on which he seems most to insist, is its length; but this is a subject on which we cannot judge in a pamphlet. He appears to wish to depreciate the Merino flock; we think he is not only unsuccessful in this, but that the attempt savours a little too much of the breeder.

"The manufactures most wanted in the United States, are those which will meet the most general demand, and in those respects I must confess I have my objections to the Merino sheep. No person can more highly applaud the patriotism and praiseworthy motive, which caused their introduction by some of our fellow citizens to the North, but I fear they have objections on their side, which will prevent their being brought into general use. In the first place they have only been imported from Europe at a great expense, and are consequently sold here at a price far beyond the general ability to afford. I am informed in a letter from a gentleman, who has been an importer of these animals, that the price of a tup is one hundred dollars, and that the Merino wool is worth ten shillings New York currency, per lb. Now these prices will effectually prevent the benefits intended to the community, by the very meritorious introducers of the stock. For although these sheep and their wool, may in some instances meet the ability of the rich, they are entirely excluded from the resources of the community in general. It were better to minister to the wants of the poor, than indulge the luxuries of the rich. No manufacture except of hats or very fine flannels, will pay for this material at so great a price, and it is but reasonable to suppose, that the price of the manufacture must be much greater in this country, than in Europe, and yet we find that in Europe this material is only converted into fabricks of the most costly nature. Indeed it cannot there be afforded in such quantities, as to form the finest cloths alone, and large quantities of English fine wool is therefore introduced to make up the deficiencies. If a superfine broad cloth, fresh from the hands of the manufacturer, is worth a guinea in London, at what price could it be afforded here, where labour is so much higher, and a great want of skill and practical knowledge, also intervenes. It will be very many years, before these expensive cloths will either be wanted, or will pay for their manufacture in this country. The demand for these articles will be confined to a wealthy few, while the articles of general use will yet be wanting."

It is rather odd, that Mr. C. should make use of the high price of the Merino sheep, as an argument against them, when he quotes in his appendix the account of different rams being let in England for a single season for five hundred guineas. It is this high price which encourages and promotes the breeding of valuable animals; and we have understood that there is a greater demand for these animals here, since the price of them has been raised to one hundred and fifty dollars, than when they were sold at one hundred. Nor is it true, that they are only sought by the rich, as many of them have been bought by moderate farmers. The introduction of this valuable race, will form a memorable epoch in the agricultural annals of our country, and when we consider that they have been generally presents made by one sovereign to another; and that even the French government made it a particular article of a treaty with Spain to procure two

thousand of them for their national establishment, it is a circumstance highly honourable to Colonel Humphreys, that he should have brought to this country one hundred of them at a time.

If our readers cannot judge of Mr. C's style from the extracts we have already given, we can only say, that we should class it with the *sloppy* manner of those productions, with which we are periodically inundated ; and if his paragraphs were all numbered, and the numbers then drawn promiscuously, we think they would make two or three July Orations.

We extract the principal part of his prospectus, on account of its eloquence, and to shew the *ne plus ultra* of absurdity in scheming. The first paragraph appoints commissioners, who are to receive the proceeds of one hundred lambs, of his improved breed, at $ 20 each, to form a fund for premiums for manufactures.

" This premium shall be given for the best ten yards of American manufactured broad cloth to be made of American wool alone, to be the width of the best European broad cloth, and of a national blue colour.

" This premium will be adjudged at the City of Washington, on the thirtieth day of each April, and will continue as long as the present form of the American government shall exist. The commissioners above named shall have the power of fixing the time and manner of the shew of cloths, and of appointing two of the judges ; the remaining two to be appointed by the president of the United States. And the premium cloth shall be respectively divided between the president of the United States, the three commissioners and myself. Or between the successor of the first, and heirs or assigns of the other parties, for in case of demise, the commissioners shall be vested with a special authority to assign their offices to those they may deem most worthy.

" As a farther benefit to this institution and to our country, I take the liberty to state the following stipulations, which must be understood to exist in all cases, and without which no improved sheep will be sold ; viz.

" Every person who shall subscribe for, and receive, an Arlington improved or Smith's Island sheep, shall consider himself as bound to the institution, to his country, and to his honour, to observe the following agreement in good faith. That where he shall sell again, from the stock of his subscription, sheep for his own emolument, he shall expressly reserve from the sale of each sheep, thus made, the sum of one dollar, to be remitted to the commissioners for the benefit of the institution.

" This stipulation applies to the subscribers for the original fund of two thousand dollars. Again, those persons who shall purchase of a subscriber, his half blooded stock, and from the produce thereof proceed to sell again, shall for every lamb which he may sell for his own emolument, reserve for the use of the institution, fifty cents, from the sale of each of the said lambs, to be remitted to the subscribers, and by them to the institution.

" This stipulation applies to the second or extended improvement.

" Lastly ; Every person who shall purchase of *him* who has purchased from a subscriber's improvement, and proceeds to sell again

his quarter blooded stock, for his own emolument, shall in every instance reserve from the sale of each lamb, the sum of twenty five cents, to be remitted to the subscribers, and by them to the institution.

" And in every other case or stage of purchase, or improvement, the sum of twenty five cents, shall be respectively reserved, and remitted to the subscribers for the benefit of the institution, and of our country.

" Thus the commissioners, in the first instance, are the guardians, the subscribers the patrons, the publick the supporters, and myself the friend of the institution, founded on the basis of patriotism, inauspicious in its infancy, now rising to greatness, and presaging the happiest effect to our country.

" If blessed with success, this plan invites the most pleasing anticipations, and promises to raise a fund for the support of the woollen manufacture of the United States, at once dignified, meritorious and patriotick. Every person, therefore, who purchases from the Arlington or Smith's Island stock, becomes, the supporter of an institution, founded on the basis of publick utility and national honour, and of course will be ranked among the benefactors of his country.

" Who will then refuse to contribute so small a sum to produce so great a benefit ? Who can say, I will not patronize an institution founded for my country's good, and to promote my country's happiness ? Is there an American who will not hail the opening dawn of manufacture, of industry, and independence ; and who will not discard the more splendid fabricks of foreign texture, to appear proudly erect, when clothed in the virtuous garb of his native soil.

" It is to be understood that the original subscription is intended to produce the perpetual premium for the cloth alone ; the produce of the subsequent plan will be devoted to very many objects not as yet arranged. For spinning, weaving, fulling, carding, combing, and all the various operations attendant on the woollen manufacture ; also for specimens of blankets, hose, and all the more necessary articles for our more immediate use. Flannels will also meet very early attention as being particularly suited to our various climates and purposes.

" The plan embraces so wide and comprehensive a scope, that its beneficial effects can only cease with the wants of our country being supplied, the American citizen rendered comfortable and happy in the garb of domestick manufacture, and independent and respectable in the eyes of the world.

" The sum which will result from the prolifick nature of the objects which are to produce it, and the vast extent to which they will be assigned, will be immense, provided the stipulations are executed in good faith, and this is all I ask of my country. The boundless extent of the plan will then render every patriotick agriculturist tributary to the good of the republick, and the beneficial effects of manufacture reward the whole. There is yet left for me in the general scale of recompense, an exalted meed. The consciousness of having discharged a patriotick duty will cause a reflection dear to my breast, and my country's happiness will reward my labours."

ART. 4.

Poems, by the Rev. George Crabbe, L. L. B. Philadelphia. Bradford and Inskeep. 12mo. pp. 235. 1808.

THE first office of poetry was to dress natural objects in alluring colours; to heighten the charm of truth and virtue by a pleasing representation. The natural tendency of this powerful machine is to abuse and perversion. It could not escape observation, that the same art, which gave beauties to truth and virtue, might be made to bestow them on falsehood and vice; that the same silk that clothed a charm, might be employed to cover a deformity. The sons of evil are never neglectful. To the shame of man it must be confessed, that poetry has been employed to inflame passion and blind understanding, at least as many times as for purposes of innocent delight and manly inspiration. If we examine a large proportion of those poems, that by their actual merit are likely to have any effect on men, we find many of them directly aimed at the outworks of good principles, many more, prepared to sap and undermine their foundation, and very few, that are not in some degree hostile to them. Thus was the best gift of God, and the strongest promoter and sweetest consoler of virtue corrupted and gained over. The unsuspicious mind imbibes unconsciously the luscious poison; the sweetness of it allures, before reason can give warning of the sting; and when reason does give the signal, it is frequently in vain. Let the Moores and the Owensons of this and every age answer for it to God and their consciences.

The false representations of real life, which the author of these poems has endeavoured to overthrow, are, it must be allowed, apparently among the most harmless. There have always been those, that pleased themselves with the descriptions of Arcadias, and the amours of Phillises and Strephons; in whom it argues an admirable wakefulness and vivacity that they were able to endure the influence of such powerful opiates. Now and then such a man as Florian or Gesner undertakes to revive the thing at the present day; and by throwing it into a new light, and mingling with it a large share of known facts and interesting circumstances, gives it some interest; but of late years, generally speaking, more especially among us of English blood, who were always an up and down people, not given to loquaciousness, or fond of frippery, the pastoral writing has been altogether on the wane. It is possible, that, as commerce is at present very unpopular, this country may be the theatre where Tityrus is destined to uplift his drooping head. It has long been by implication, and perhaps may in time be directly a plan of our publick policy, to people our interiour woods and mountains with shepherds and shepherdesses, and they will probably call for a new edition of Sir Philip Sidney's Arcadia, and the Gentle Shepherd. The present names of our rivers and mountains will be a great obstacle to the application of these ideas to our native scenes. The aborigines of this country were a very unpastoral people; they made their dear Dulcineas plant maize and grind it for them; and they did not value it a beaver's tongue whether the name they gave their village was a dactyle, or a spondee, or neither. Horace

found one name so unwieldy that he could not manage it ; and a rural poet would here meet with Connecticuts and Quinnabaugs at every turn, not to mention now and then a Chargoggagogmanchoggagog. To return from this short digression, mistaken pictures of rural life are originally harmless ; but they connect themselves in the issue with many other kinds of deception. Besides, the infection is spread perhaps farther than we are aware. We observe and ridicule the extreme aosurdities of the picture ; but associated as they are with the classick authors of youth, we do not perhaps all know, till we reflect, how strongly the general notions of rural quiet and felicity are fixed in our minds.

Nothing can be better adapted to remove any favourable bias for these sylvan scenes, than Mr. Crabbe's representations. All the principal poems in this collection exhibit pictures of village manners, of village loves and enjoyments, that certainly, applied to this country, surpass the real misery of natural low life. Hence their tenor is cheerless and mournful. Rejecting all petty ornaments, and even disregarding in some measure, the sing song mellifluous chime that is the boast of the meanest poetaster, the author aims at strong thought and nervous expression. These are beauties that will last beyond the passing fashion, or even the changing dialect.

From the "Newspaper," we extract the author's warning advice to those hapless youth, who feel the poetick ardour tingling in their veins, and who have no better medium through which to communicate it, than the poet's corner. Poets, when they give premonitory descriptions of the ills of poetry, are often, like Cassander, believed with difficulty. If it was said of Bossuet, that in supporting the superiority of the ancients over the moderns, by the excellence of his own argument he proved the opposite ; it is also to be feared, that one whose success in poetry is so encouraging an example, will hardly dissuade by precept.

Last in these ranks and least, their art's disgrace,
Neglected stand the Muse's meanest race.
Hapless the lad, whose mind such dreams invade,
And win to verse the talents due to trade.
Curb then, O youth, these raptures as they rise,
Keep down the evil spirit, and be wise ;
Follow your calling, think the Muses foes,
Nor lean upon your pestle, and compose.
I know your day dreams, and I know the snare
Hid in your flowery path, and cry "beware."
Thoughtless of ill, and to the future blind,
A sudden couplet rushes on your mind ;
Here you may nameless print your idle rhymes,
And read your firstborn work a thousand times.
Th' infection spreads, your couplet grows apace,
Stanzas to Delia's dog, or Celia's face ;
You take a name ; Philander's odes are seen,
Printed and prais'd in every magazine ;
Diarian sages greet their brother sage,
And your dark pages please th' enlighten'd age.
Alas ! what years you thus consume in vain,
Ruled by this wretched bias of the brain.
Of all the good, that mortal men pursue,
The muse has least to give, and gives to few.
Like some coquettish fair, she leads us on
With smiles and hopes, till youth and peace are gone.

Then wed for life the restless, wrangling pair,
Forget how constant one, and one how fair.
Meanwhile Ambition, like a blooming bride,
Brings power and wealth to grace her lover's side;
And though she smiles not with such flatt'ring charms,
The brave will sooner win her to their arms.
Then wed to her, if virtue tie the bands,
Go spread your country's fame in hostile lands;
Her court, her senate, or her arms adorn,
And let her foes lament that you were born;
Or weigh her laws, their ancient rights defend,
Though hosts oppose, be theirs and reason's friend;
Arm'd with strong pow'rs, in their defence engage,
And rise the Thurlow of the future age.

RETROSPECTIVE REVIEW.

ART. 1.

A History of three of the Judges of King Charles the First; Major General Whalley, Major General Goffe, and Colonel John Dixwell; who, at the restoration, 1660, *fled to America, and were secreted and concealed, in Massachusetts and Connecticut, for near thirty years. With an account of Theophilus Whale, of Narragansett, supposed to have been also one of the Judges. By President Stiles.* Hartford; printed by Elisha Babcock, 1794.

MANY pass their lives in obscurity, whose genius, learning, and morals would give them distinction, if they were known. Others play their parts upon the great theatre, who owe their importance wholly to the times.

During the civil war in England men became great by their boldness and energy of character, rather than by their talents or virtues. It began as a political contest in parliament, where patriots spoke their minds with freedom and ardour against the arbitrary maxims of the court; it was finished by men of blood, who first turned the parliament out of doors, and then made the civil wholly subservient to the military power. With a few exceptions, the judges of Charles I. were such men as Cromwell selected to answer his purposes, from the ruder mass of the people, because he could not find men of education violent enough to hurl the nobles from their high places, and bring their monarch to the scaffold. With the bible in one hand, a sword in the other; devotion in their countenances, and cant and falsehood on their tongues, they supported a man whose aim was to exalt himself; but who, in the opinion of Voltaire, "effaced the crime of usurpation by the qualities of a great king."

Gen. Whalley, one of the regicide judges, was nearly related to Cromwell, and a late European writer gives him this character; "His valour and military knowledge were confessedly great; his religious sentiments wild and enthusiastick. From a merchant's counter to rise to so many, and so high offices in the state, and to conduct himself with propriety in them, sufficiently evinces that he had good abilities."*

* Noble's Anecdotes of the Cromwell Family.

Major general Goffe married Whalley's daughter. He was the son of a clergyman ; had a brother in the profession, a zealous friend to the church of England ; another brother, a Roman Catholick, attached to Charles II. and employed by him. He was himself a zealous presbyterian. He had been "bound apprentice to a salter in London, and his time being nearly out, he betook himself to be a soldier in a righteous cause ; was a frequent prayer-maker, presser for righteousness and freedom, and therefore in high esteem with the parliamentary army." This is an extract from the "*Fasti Oxonienses*," to which Dr. Stiles often recurs for information. They go on to describe his official character. Cromwell made him "major general of Hampshire, Sussex, and Berks. He was so highly esteemed in Oliver's court, that he was judged to be the only fit man to have Lambert's place and command, as major general of the army of foot, and by some, to have the protectorship settled upon him, in future time. He being thus made so considerable a person, was taken out of the house of commons to be made a lord, and to have a negative in the other house, and the rather for this reason, that he never in all his life, as he used to say, fought against any such thing as a single person, or a negative voice, but only to pull down Charles, and set up Oliver, in which he obtained his end."

Dr. Stiles quotes also a passage from the *Athenae Oxonienses*, which, being compared with the histories of those times, we find exactly in the spirit of those who are on the side of the court, and very different from the writers on the side of the commonwealth.

"It has been the manner of all the court historians," says our author, "ever since the licentious era of Charles II. to confound all the characters of religion with the irrational and extravagant fashion of that day and every age. But candour ought to confess, at least to believe, and even to know, that in the cause of liberty, in the parliamentary cause, while there were many mad enthusiasts in religion and politicks ; the great and noble transactions of that day show there was also great wisdom, great abilities, great generalship, great knowledge of law and justice, great learning, great integrity, and rational and sincere religion," &c.

From this passage, and many others, it is evident, that the Dr. is highly in favour of Cromwell and the commonwealth, in which he agrees with most of our congregational ministers of the past century, who could not forget the sufferings of their fathers, and, till the revolution, had reason to dread the rods of ecclesiastical tyranny, which some lordly prelates shook over their heads.

In this history of the judges, Dr. Stiles undertakes to vindicate the whole conduct of the protector ; and did we not know the principles and aim of the writer, and the goodness of heart, which ever was mingled with his prejudices, we should think him not serious, but was describing the character of Cromwell in a strain of irony ; because, it is well known, that the republicans hated him for his base dereliction of their cause, and that he was as fond of power as Caesar, who would have been king, if he dared.

"Oliver, if any man, ought to be credited in his declarations of sincerity, necessity, and obedience to *the calls of God and his country* ; for I believe he was so sick of the world, even before he

ascended the protectorate, that it had no charms for him ; and that he would gladly, if possible, have escaped the burdensome and dangerous honour, and evanished from publick life into retirement and obscurity." p. 265.

In another place ; " The experiment was made upon him ; the crown and title, with all its flattering glories, were offered to him, and with the greatest importunity pressed upon him, by the unanimous voice of a misjudging parliament, joined with the first law characters in the nation. He was wiser, and saw farther than all the parliament. He saw, that by accepting the title, the object for which he and the nation had been contending, a free state, would be given up, and this was as dear to him as Washington."

Dr. Stiles, in this history, seems to have delighted in tracing, with the utmost minuteness, the steps of these vagrant judges ; and we feel indebted to him for a labour, which, though the value of it be small, we could not expect from any other hand. " While the regicides were at New Haven, escaping the pursuit of the officers of government, they found friends, who would protect them in their houses, and give them every alarm, if they were threatened with immediate danger, although they exposed themselves to the resentment of men in power, " whose tender mercies were cruelty." The account is taken from Goffe's diary, which he kept for several years after he left London. This manuscript the late governour Hutchinson obtained from the Mather library. It was lost, with an immense quantity of valuable materials, when an infuriated mob destroyed his house, in the autumn of 1765.

Dr. Stiles had extracted some parts of it before this happened, and Mr. Hutchinson had given the medulla of it, perhaps, in his History of Massachusetts Bay.

The regicides were concealed by Mr. Davenport ; and when he was threatened with a prosecution, and his house searched, they found a place of safety in the house of Mrs. Ayers, a lady of great presence of mind, who once saw the pursuers entering the door, and yet contrived a way for her guests to escape. At another time they were under the bridge which their pursuers went over, making diligent search for them.

They stood ready to surrender themselves, rather than Mr. Davenport should be brought into trouble on their account, and they doubtless, for this purpose, came into town the 20th of June, and stayed some days. " In this trying time, their friends for their sakes adventured to take the danger on themselves, and risque events. A great, a noble, a trying act of friendship ! For a good man, one would even dare to die. Great was the peril, especially of Davenport, Gilbert, Leet, and others ; inveterate the resentment of Kellond and Kirk ; and pointed and pressing the remonstrances of the governour and secretary of Boston. The magistrates of New Haven were truly brought into great straits. The fidelity of their friendship heroick and glorious ! Davenport's fortitude saved them."

These are our author's reflections. He then describes their situation after they left New Haven, till August 19, 1661, when they passed over to Milford, where they remained two years, from which place they went to Hadley, Massachusetts, and lived with Mr. Rus-

sell, the minister of that town, till their days were ended. General Whalley died in 1676 or 1678. Nothing is heard of Goffe after 1679. Tradition says, that two bodies were found buried in Mr. Russell's cellar, some years after. There is ground to conjecture, that their bodies were carried to New Haven, and lie buried with col. Dixwell.

The letters which passed between gen. Goffe and his wife, preserved by Hutchinson, are curious. They discover not only mutual affection, but that they had sincere friends in England, who supplied their wants. There is also a story concerning the military prowess of this regicide, which is worth our notice, and is well attested.

In 1675, when the country was in continual alarm, the frontier towns were exposed to such sudden incursions of the Indians, that the people went armed to publick worship. On fast day, Sept. 1, Hadley was attacked, and the meeting house surrounded. "At the same time appeared a man of venerable aspect, and different from the inhabitants in his apparel, who took the command, arranged them in the best military manner; and under his direction they routed and defeated the Indians, and the town was saved. He immediately vanished." This was major general Goffe. By some account, Whalley died in 1674; but if he lived some years after, yet he was then in a state of total imbecility of body and mind, as appears from Goffe's letters.

Who this person could be, was marvellous in the eyes of the people of that generation. They generally supposed it was an *angel*, sent for their deliverance. It was spread over the whole country; and having the Lord on their side, who would send his angels to fight for them, they feared very little from the savages of this American wilderness. The matter was explained in 1692, when Mr. Russell died. It was then known who had been concealed in apartments of his dwelling.

The two chapters which describe the characters of these two regicides, and give an account of their concealment, are much the most interesting in the book. The third chapter is a "Memoir of col. Dixwell," who was a respectable member of the Long Parliament, an officer of their army, and whom Cromwell persuaded to sit as one of king Charles's judges. That the whole proceeding was disagreeable to him, appears from other documents, than those contained in this book. At the trial of Downes, one of the judges who was condemned and pardoned, he declared that he was forced to act on that business. He was asked, whether he knew any other who disapproved of it. He said, yes, and mentioned Dixwell. This, perhaps, Dr. Stiles did not believe, for it would have depreciated his worth, in his view. But it may account for his undisturbed residence at New Haven. Though he went by a different name, many doubtless suspected that it was col. Dixwell; but no particular inquiry being made, there was no reason to expect any great reward for betraying him. Sir Edmund Andross saw him in 1686, when he attended publick worship; and it might have been curiosity which led him to pass the sabbath in the place.

In his own country, Dixwell made no figure to be compared with Whalley and Goffe, who were lords of Cromwell's upper house,

and major generals, with a kind of jurisdiction in the island, that made them excellent in the mimickry of their master's greatness, or the mirrors of his majesty.

Dixwell lived at New Haven till 1689; was eighty two years old when he died. His son was an inhabitant of Boston, and very respectable in his character. He was a ruling elder of the church in North Street, of which he was one of the founders in 1714.

The 4th. chapter of this history is "An inquiry whether all the three regicides lie buried in New Haven."

The 5th. "A justification of the judges; with reflections on the English policy;" which, for the reputation of the author, we could wish had never been printed.

Those who understand and admire the English constitution, are uniform in their condemnation of this transaction. Treason and murder, with the mockery of the forms of justice, are not to be palliated. We believe Charles was always weak, often changeable, and sometimes arbitrary; but we feel unable to calculate with coolness, "the deep damnation of his taking off."

Dr. Stiles was a learned and excellent man, but he wanted judgment in many things which were the objects of his study. When he writes concerning the antiquities of his own country, he frequently risks an opinion which no body believes but himself. As a politician, he certainly did not excel, as appears from this chapter, where he exhibits his "Conspectus of a perfect polity," and shows a very imperfect view of the subject. But what renders this part of his book the most exceptionable, is, that he approves of the conduct of the French, even to the murder of their monarch. He speaks of Talleyrand, Condorcet, and other jacobins, as oracles of wisdom. Should any man write thus now, we should suppose a temporary lethargy of the moral sense, with the most irrational views of law and government.

The last chapter brings forward *Theophilus Whale*, of Narragansett, supposed to be one of the judges. But this depends upon traditionary accounts, some of which were contradicted by facts, as gathered from Goffe's diary. Whale was a learned and worthy man, with a singularity of conduct, which led to suspicions, which were transmitted from father to son, and which are communicated to the publick by our author, who, though credulous, examined every thing before he asserted it for truth, not with superficial glance, but the most minute attention. The progeny of Mr. Whale, in Rhode Island, are among the respectable people of the state.

Upon the whole, we may consider this History of the Judges a work, which gains more from the reputation of the author, than from its intrinsick merits. There are, however, some things very valuable as objects of curiosity, which an antiquarian would consider as precious documents in his treasury of knowledge. From page 35 to 51, there is "a general and summary idea of the initial polity of New Haven, legislatorial, judicial and governmental;" and certain "extracts from the *Records*," which will entertain the curious inquirer, and must be very interesting to such as trace out, and collect, and digest the traditions of our fathers, the first lines of New England settlements, or the manners and circumstances of a people in a new and very peculiar state of society.

INTELLIGENCE AND MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

FOREIGN.

NEW VOLCANO.

A letter from J. B. Dabney, Esq. American Consul, to a friend at St. Michaels.

FAYAL, AZORES, JUNE 25, 1808.

"A PHENOMENON has occurred here, not unusual in former ages, but of which there has been no example of late years; it was well calculated to inspire terrour, and has been attended with the destruction of lives and property. On Sunday, the first of May, at one P. M. walking in the balcony of my house at St. Antonio, I heard noises like the report of heavy cannon at a distance, and concluded there was some sea engagement in the vicinity of the island. But soon after, casting my eyes towards the island of St. George, ten leagues distant, I perceived a dense column of smoke rising to an immense height; it was soon judged that a volcano had burst out, about the centre of that island, and this was rendered certain when night came on, the fire exhibiting an awful appearance. Being desirous of viewing this wonderful exertion of nature, I embarked on the third of May, accompanied by the British Consul, and ten other gentlemen, for St. George; we ran over in five hours, and arrived at Vellas, the principal town, at eleven A. M. We found the poor inhabitants perfectly panick struck, and wholly given up to religious ceremonies and devotion. We learned, that the fire of the first of May had broken out in a ditch, in the midst of fertile pastures, three leagues S. E. of Vellas, and had immediately formed a crater, in size about twenty four acres. In two days, it had thrown out cinders, or small pumice stones, that a strong N. E. wind had propelled southerly; and which, independent of the mass accumulated round the crater, had covered the earth from one foot to four feet in depth, half a league in width, and three leagues in length; then passing the channel five leagues, had done some injury to the east point of Pico. The fire of this large crater had nearly subsided, but in the evening preceding our arrival, another small crater had opened, one league north of the large one, and only two leagues from Vellas. After taking some refreshment, we visited the second crater, the sulphureous smoke of which, driven southerly, rendered it impracticable to attempt approaching the large one. When we came within a mile of the crater, we found the earth rent in every direction; and, as we approached nearer, some of the chasms were six feet wide. By leaping over some of these chasms, and making windings to avoid the larger ones, we at length arrived within two hundred yards of the spot; and saw it, in the middle of a pasture, distinctly at intervals, when the thick smoke, which swept the earth, lighted up a little. The mouth of it was only about fifty yards in circumference; the fire seemed struggling for vent; the force with which a pale blue flame issued forth, resembled a powerful steam engine, multiplied a hundred fold; the noise

was deafening ; the earth where we stood had a tremulous motion, the whole island seemed convulsed, horrid bellowings were occasionally heard from the bowels of the earth, and earthquakes were frequent. After remaining here about ten minutes, we returned to town ; the inhabitants had mostly quitted their houses, and remained in the open air, or under tents. We passed the night at Vellas, and the next morning went by water to Ursulina, a small seaport town, two leagues south of Vellas, and viewed that part of the country covered with the cinders before mentioned, and which has turned the most valuable vineyards in the island into a frightful desert. On the same day, the 4th. of May, we returned to Fayal, and on the 5th. and succeeding days, from twelve to fifteen small volcanoes broke out in the fields we had traversed on the 3d. from the chasms before described, and threw out a quantity of lava, which travelled on slowly towards Vellas. The fire of those small craters subsided, and the lava ceased running about the 11th. of May ; on which day, the large volcano, that had lain dormant for nine days, burst forth again like a roaring lion, with horrid belchings, distinctly heard at twelve leagues distance, throwing up prodigious large stones, and an immense quantity of lava, illuminating at night the whole island. This continued with tremendous force until the 5th. of June, exhibiting the awful, yet magnificent spectacle of a perfect river of fire, distinctly seen from Fayal, running into the sea. On that day, the 5th. we experienced that its force began to fail ; and, in a few days after, it ceased entirely. The distance of the crater from the sea is about four miles, and its elevation about three thousand five hundred feet. The lava inundated and swept away the town of Ursulina, and country houses and cottages adjacent, as well as the farm houses, throughout its course. It, as usual, gave timely notice of its approach, and most of the inhabitants fled ; some few, however, remained in the vicinity of it too long, endeavouring to save their furniture and effects, and were scalded by flashes of steam, which, without injuring their clothes, took off not only their skin, but their flesh. About sixty persons were thus miserably scalded, some of whom died on the spot, or in a few days after. Numbers of cattle shared the same fate. The judge and principal inhabitants left the island very early. The consternation and anxiety were for some days so great among the people, that even their domestick concerns were abandoned ; and, amidst plenty, they were in danger of starving. Supplies of ready baked bread were sent from hence to their relief, and large boats were sent to bring away the inhabitants, who had just lost their dwellings. In short, the island, heretofore rich in cattle, corn, and wine, is nearly ruined, and a scene of greater desolation and distress has seldom been witnessed in any country."

THE STATE OF THE PRESS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

AS an account of the present state of the Clarendon press, in the university of Oxford, was given in our last number, a similar account, relative to the sister university, comes in due order in this.

The following books were published either in 1807 or 1808. Euripidis Troades, corrected partly from MSS. and partly by conjectural criticism, by Mr. Burges, of Trinity College. A third volume of a System of Astronomy, by Mr. Vince, Plumian Professor of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy. The fifth edition of an Analysis of the Greek Metres, by Dr. Seale. A Confutation of Atheism, from the Laws and Constitution of the Heavenly Bodies, by Professor Vince. A splendid volume of Travels in Magna Grecia, with engravings, by Mr. Wilkins ; this relates principally to architecture. A Translation into blank verse of Lycophron's Cassandra, by the late Lord Royston. A Treatise on an Errour in Euclid, by Mr. Lax, of Trinity College. With a few Prize Essays and single Sermons.

There are several learned works, classical, etymological, and mathematical, now in the press, some in great forwardness ; and it will afford many of our readers pleasure to hear, that of the latter number, the following will be published early in the winter : A Descriptive Catalogue of the Oriental Library of the late Tippoo Sultan, of Mysore. To which will be added, an Appendix, containing Specimens of the most interesting works, by Major Stewart, Persian Professor at the East India College, Herts. The Choruses of Eschylus's Plays, intended to be explanatory of the Greek Metres, by Dr. Charles Burney ; and an Etymological work, by the Rev. Walter Whiter, late Fellow of Clare Hall.

The university has purchased the following work of the son of Hoogeveen, and it is printed, though not yet published ; viz. Henrici Hoogeveen Opus Posthumum, exhibens Dictionarium Analogicum, Linguae Graecae, cum Auctoris Vitâ ab ipso conscriptâ. To which is subjoined, Philippi Cattieri Gazophyacium Graecorum, seu Methodus Admirabilis ad insignem brevi comparandam Verborum Copiam cum Auctario Frid. Ludov. Abresch. Hoogeveen is author of the well known work, entitled, Doctrina Particularum Linguae Graecae.

It is also understood that Dr. Clarke, late Fellow of Jesus College, who has already favoured the publick with an account of the Colossal Statue of Ceres, has in the press a Description of the other Marmora which he brought into this country, together with his Travels.

With respect to the plan of printing by stereotype plates, that was adopted by this university as early as 1805. Many beautiful editions of Bibles and Prayer Books have accordingly been published, both in English and Welch, the plates having been cast in a foundery erected by the university for the express purpose.

DOMESTICK.

MERINOS AND MANUFACTURES.

To the honourable General Assembly of the state of Connecticut, now in Session.

THE committee appointed to inquire concerning the properties of the Merino breed of sheep, imported into this state, by the hon. DAVID HUMPHREYS, late minister plenipotentiary from the United States to the court of Madrid, respectfully report:

That we have carefully investigated the facts connected with the various subjects referred to us; and take pleasure in observing, that col. Humphreys, while in discharging the high and important duties of his publick station, availed himself of the facilities, which his character and acquaintance in the capitals of Spain and Portugal afforded; and in the year one thousand eight hundred and two, extracted from Spain a chosen flock of one hundred sheep of the Merino race. The committee thought it to be their duty, firstly, to ascertain whether this breed of sheep is superiour, in intrinsick value, to the several species bred among us; and secondly, whether, if propagated here, they would be likely to retain their original qualities. It is in proof to the committee, that this race of sheep is inferiour to none, in the value of the carcase, or in the facility of management. They are healthful, and fatten easily in our climate. The superiour excellence of their wool is fully attested by comparison, and an attentive examination of the fabricks, wrought from the fleeces grown in this country. Indeed the well known fact, that the wool of the Merino breed has been for a long time considered by artists and manufacturers throughout Europe, as indispensable to the construction of the finer woollen fabricks, is in itself, in the opinion of the committee, incontestible evidence of its superiour fineness. Whether sheep of the Merino race, if propagated here, will be likely to retain their original qualities, has appeared to the committee to be the main question of practical importance. Upon this point the committee are not left to doubt or conjecture. The evidence, that the wool of the imported Merinos has not deteriorated, is conclusive. Gentlemen of the first intelligence and integrity have attentively watched the progressive state of colonel Humphreys' imported flock, and concur in attesting to the facts, that the wool of the original stock retains all its superiour value, in quality and quantity; that the full blooded progeny, produced in this country, is in no respect inferiour to the stock imported from Spain. Were the proof, derived from the observation and experience of respectable citizens, in any degree incomplete, the fact that the Merino race is capable of enduring all the effects of a northern climate, without deterioration, would be apparent from multiplied experiments, made in different countries. They have been successfully propagated in Great Britain, France, Holland, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, and Sweden. In these new and various situations, their fleeces, on the experience of many years, have been found to be augmented in quantity, and undiminished in fineness. On this combined view of facts, the committee do not hesitate to express a decided and unanimous opinion, that the climate of this state is not unfavourable to the

propagation of this valuable breed of animals. The committee deem it necessary to suggest the importance of meliorating our breed of sheep; particularly in the article of wool. The opportunities which are now offered, of crossing the blood, and producing a mixed progeny, as also of preserving and extending the full blooded breed to an unlimited degree, are in the opinion of the committee, advantages of high importance. That the wool of the mixed breed surpasses that of the ordinary sheep of the country, to a surprising degree, in regard to both quantity and quality, is a fact which is fully attested. It is found to be very useful in the hat manufactory, and is eagerly sought for at a price greatly advanced. Its value to the citizens of this state, is very great for the domestick fabrick of homespun garments. The committee find, that the peculiar excellence of the breed is confirmed by experience, beyond contradiction. Many of the citizens of this and other states in the union, are convinced of its intrinsick value; and the legislature of the state of New York, desirous of securing the staple of the woollen manufacture, have considered the extensive spread of the Merino sheep, in and over their state, to be of so much importance, as to encourage it by assurances of liberal pecuniary advancement from their publick treasury.

In regard to the other important matters referred to them, the committee find that colonel Humphreys has, with great expense, erected buildings, and procured machinery, for carrying on several branches of manufactures in the town of Derby, at a place, which, as it has grown up under his care, may with propriety be denominated Humphreysville; that, among these is the fabrication of cotton yarn, and stuffs, broad and narrow cloths, and stockings of various kinds. The committee hold no speculative opinions on the subject of manufactures; their views are altogether practical. In their opinion, the exertions of colonel Humphreys; in the introduction of labour-saving machines, and the selection of women and children as his principal labourers, are presages of ultimate success. By this combination of means, he overcomes, in a degree, the embarrassments resulting from the dearness of labour; and, at the same time, in a mode very honourable to himself, and useful to the state, converts into an active capital, "the exertions of persons, who would otherwise be idle, and in many instances a burden to the community, either from the bias of temper, habit, infirmity of body, or some other cause indisposing or disqualifying them for severe toils." The committee view with much satisfaction the endeavours of colonel Humphreys to render the services of women and children more useful; and those of the latter more early useful. Nothing is drawn from tillage, and yet the fund of national industry is increased. The fabricks produced from the factory, are, in their colour, and compactness, and fineness of texture, honourable specimens of ingenuity and art; and evidence the care bestowed in the instruction of the artists. The course pursued, to imbue the minds of the youth with useful knowledge, to preserve and correct their morals, and inculcate the principles of religion is in the opinion of the committee judicious; an example highly deserving the imitation of all persons having the charge of extensive manufacturing establishments. Evening schools are kept in the

winter season, and the children are all of them required to attend. Thus, while relieved from labour, endeavours are made to render them useful citizens. The committee find that the exertions of colonel Humphreys for the extension of literary, moral and religious instructions, have not been limited to those who are placed under his immediate care. He has for several months employed a schoolmaster, at his own expense, for the education of poor children, residing in the neighbourhood of his establishment ; and has been at a moiety of the charge of supporting a respectable minister of the gospel, in that vicinity.

On the preceding facts and observations, the committee are unanimously of opinion, that the Merino race of sheep is a valuable acquisition to this state, and that colonel Humphreys, for his patriotick exertions in importing them, is entitled to a publick testimony of the respect of his native state.

The committee are also of opinion, that publick encouragement is due to the various important manufactures carried on in his establishment.

To effectuate those objects, the committee have prepared sundry resolutions, which they respectfully recommend to the legislature for their adoption.

All which is submitted and signed by order of the committee.

(Signed) ELIZUR GOODRICH.

October session, 1808.

In the house of representatives, the foregoing report is accepted and approved.

(Signed) Test. L. LAW, *Clerk*.

Concurred in the upper house.

(Signed) Test. SAMUEL WYLLYS, *Secretary*.

At a General Assembly of the state of Connecticut, holden at New Haven, on the second Thursday of October, A. D. 1808.

It appeared to this assembly, on report of committee, and a careful attention to facts, that the importation of the Merino race of sheep into this state, is a valuable acquisition ; and it being not only a tribute of gratitude due to a distinguished citizen, to preserve a memorial of the event, but also greatly promotive of the publick interest, to inspire others with an emulation of patriotick exertions;

Resolved, That the thanks of this assembly be presented to the honourable DAVID HUMPHREYS, a native citizen of this state, and late minister from the United States to the court of Madrid, as a testimony of respect for his patriotick exertions in importing into the state one hundred of the Merino breed of sheep, to improve the breed of that useful animal in his own country.

Resolved, That this assembly approve of the wise and well-concerted measures adopted by colonel Humphreys, in establishing and conducting the manufacture of cotton and woollen fabricks, at Humphreysville, in the town of Derby ; and that, to encourage his valuable exertions in the arts of peace, his superintendants, foremen, and apprentices, in these branches of manufacture, be exempt from the poll tax and assessment, from military duty, and working at highways, and his cotton and woollen establishment from taxes

and assessments, for the term of ten years, from the rising of this assembly.

Resolved, That his excellency the governour be requested to cause an authenticated copy of the foregoing resolutions to be communicated to colonel Humphreys.

A true copy of record, examined by

SAMUEL WYLLYS, *Secretary*.

CATALOGUE

OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES, *FOR JANUARY*, 1809.

Sunt bona, sunt quaedam mediocria, sunt mala plura. MART.

NEW WORKS.

N. B. Such Books, Pamphlets, &c. as are designated by the mark (*) may be found at the Boston Athenaeum.

* A Letter to the President of the United States, touching the prosecutions under his patronage, before the Circuit Court in the district of Connecticut; containing a faithful narrative of the extraordinary measures pursued, and of the incidents, both serious and laughable, that occurred during the pendency of these abortive prosecutions. By Hampden. Tantaene animis coelestibus irae. *Can a philosopher be angry?* New Haven; printed by Oliver Steele and Co. 1808. pp. 28. 8vo.

* Considerations on the abolition of the Common Law in the United States.

"Is it not as this mouth should tear this hand
For lifting food to't?"

Philadelphia; published by William P. Farrand and Co. Fry and Kammerer, printers, 1809. pp. 71. 8vo.

* An Address to the people of New England. By Algernon Sidney. Dec. 15, 1808. Washington City; printed by Dinsmore and Cooper. 1808. pp. 38. 8vo.

* Cases and Queries submitted to every citizen of the United States, and especially the members of the Administration, and of both Houses of Congress, as deserving to be impartially considered by them. New York; E. Sargeant. 1809. pp. 24, 8vo.

* The Trial of Lieutenant Renshaw, of the U. S. navy, indicted for challenging Joseph Strong, Esq. attorney at law, to fight a duel; with the speeches of the learned counsel Colden, Hoffman, and Emmet. Taken in short hand, by William Sampson, Esq. With an Appendix, containing the proceedings of the Naval Court of Inquiry, held by order of the Secretary of the Navy. New York; Frank, White and Co. Jan. 1809. pp. 114. 8vo.

A Pamphlet, containing a Letter to his Excellency William C. C. Claiborne, Governour of the territory of New Orleans.

A Letter of Thanks to James Brown, Esq. counsellor at law.

A Defence of the Honourable John Rowan and Daniel Clark, members of Congress, against the slanders of the tergiversant Redacteur of the Courier.

A Letter to Messrs. Judson, Hickly, Waters, Hill, Sanderson, Clark, and Richardson, the gentlemen who composed the jury, &c.

A Letter to the Honourable Joshua Lewis, one of the Judges of the Superiour Court.

Hints for the consideration of Grand and Petit Juries. This tract, together with the five immediately preceding it, from the pen of H. R. Nugent, was printed and published at New Orleans, 1808.

* The Honest Politician; Part I. containing the first eight numbers; together with a publication under the signature of Vindex, relative to the same subject. Addressed to the President, and published in the district of Columbia, about the middle of February last. Baltimore; 1808. 12mo. pp. 65. Price 25 cents.

* A Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting his annual report, prepared in obedience to an act to establish the treasury department. Dec. 1808. Washington City; A. and J. Way. pp. 54. folio.

*A Message from the President of the U. S. transmitting copies of all orders and decrees of the belligerent powers of Europe, affecting the commercial rights of the U. S. passed since 1791. Dec. 28, 1808. Printed by order of the Senate. Washington City; R. C. Weightman. pp. 123. 8vo.

* Exposition of the practices and machinations which led to the usurpation of the crown of Spain, and the means adopted by Bonaparte to carry it into execution. By Don Pedro Cevallos, first Secretary of State and Despatches to his Catholick Majesty Ferdinand VII. Translated from the Spanish. New York; E. Sargeant. pp. 47. 8vo. Dec. 1808.

* An Exact and Impartial Account of the most Important Events which have occurred in Aranjuez, Madrid, and Bayonne; from the 17th of March until the 15th of May, 1808; treating of the fall of the Prince of Peace, and of the termination of the friendship and alliance between the French and Spanish nations. Written in Spanish, published in Cadiz, and translated in this city. New York; E. Sargeant. pp. 46. 8vo. Dec. 1808.

* An Examination of the Constitutionality of the Embargo Laws: comprising a view of the arguments on that question, before the Hon. John Davis, Esq. Judge of the District Court for Massachusetts, in the case of the U. S. vs. Brigantine William. Tried and determined at Salem, Mass. September term, 1808. By Francis Blake, counsellor at law. To which is added, the Opinion pronounced by the court, on the constitutional question arising in the trial of the case. Worcester; Goulding and Stow, 1808. pp. 61. 8vo.

* A Message from the President of the U. S. communicating certain letters which passed between the British Secretary of State, Mr. Canning, and Mr. Pinckney. Jan. 17, 1809. Published by order of the Senate. Washington City; R. C. Weightman. pp. 31 8vo.

*A Discourse, delivered before the Society for propagating the Gospel among the Indians and others in North America, at their anniversary meeting in Boston, November 3, 1808. By Abiel Holmes, D. D. minister of the first church in Cambridge. Boston; published by Farrand, Mallory and Co. Suffolk buildings, State Street. Belcher and Armstrong, printers. 1808. pp. 68. 8vo.

* Two Sermons, delivered in the Presbyterian church in the city of Albany, on Thursday, Sept. 8th, 1808; being the day recommended by the general assembly of the Presbyterian church in the United States, for fasting, humiliation and prayer. By John B. Romeyn, A. M. Albany; published by Backus and Whiting, No. 45, State Street. William Tucker, printer. 1808. pp. 80. 8vo.

*A Sermon, preached at the church in Brattle Street, Boston, December 18th, 1808, the Lord's day after the publick funeral of his Excellency James Sullivan, Governour of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. By Joseph S. Buckminster, minister of the society in Brattle Street. Boston; J. Belcher, printer, State Street. 1809. pp. 41. 8vo. Price 25 cents.

* Theological Tracts, No. 1. containing Zollikoffer's seven sermons on the Reformation. Boston; William Wells, No. 6, Court Street. pp. 93. 8vo. Price 50 cents.

* The Witness, No. 1. January, 1809. Published monthly. Boston; printed and sold by Manning and Loring, No. 2, Cornhill. pp. 48. 12mo.

* The Christian's Magazine, designed, &c. No. 3, of Vol. II. New-York; printed by J. Seymour, 1808. From page 264 to page 365. 8vo.

* A Sermon, illustrating the will of God respecting the salvation of all men. By Jacob Norton, A. M. pastor of the first church in Weymouth. Boston; published by Lincoln and Edmunds, No. 43, Cornhill. pp. — 8vo. Price 20 cents.

A Sermon, delivered Nov. 26, 1808, at the interment of the Rev. Thomas Cary, senior pastor of the first religious society in Newburyport. By John Andrews, surviving pastor. Newburyport; Edward Little. Dec. 1808. pp.—

A Sermon, delivered on the day of Publick Thanksgiving in the state of Massachusetts, Dec. 1, 1808. By John Lathrop, D. D. minister of the second church in Boston. Boston; Munroe, Francis and Parker. Dec. 1808. pp.—

* A Sermon, preached at Trinity Church in Boston, on the day appointed for Publick Thanksgiving throughout the state of Massachusetts, Dec. 1, 1808. By J. S. J. Gardiner, A. M rector of the church. Boston; Munroe, Francis and Parker, No. 4, Cornhill. pp. 23. 8vo. Dec. 1808.

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* Sermons on several subjects, by the late Rev. William Paley, D. D. sub dean of Lincoln, prebendary of St. Paul's, and rector of Bishopwearmouth. Boston; Farrand, Mallory and Co. Price $1 87 1-2. 1808.

* Select Reviews, No. I. of Vol. I. and Spirit of the Foreign Magazines, for January, 1809. By E. Bronson and others. Philadelphia ; Hopkins and Earle. pp. 72. 8vo. Price 5 dollars per annum.

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